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I.

REPRESENTATIONS

OF THE

Brazilian Merchants

AGAINST THE

INSULTS OFFERED TO THE PORTUGUESE FLAG,

AND AGAINST THE

VIOLENT AND OPPRESSIVE CAPTURE OF SEVERAL OF THEIR VESSELS BY SOME OFFICERS BELONGING TO THE

ENGLISH NAVY;

TO WHICH IS ADDED,

A SHORT ANALYSIS OF A WORK, ENTITLED

The History of the Azores, or Western Islands, &c.

IN WHICH IS SHEWN THE INJUSTICE OF THAT AUTHOR TOWARDS THE PORTUGUESE NATION, AND THE IMPUDENCE WITH WHICH HE PROPOSES TO THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT TO SEIZE UPON THOSE ISLANDS, AS AN INDEMNITY FOR THE DEBT WHICH IS OWING FROM PORTUGAL TO GREAT BRITAIN;

AND ALSO,

OTHER INTERESTING PIECES.

Circa isthæc, generale officium ex lege naturali debitum est: ut *quilibet fidem datam servet*, seu promissa et pacta expleat. Citra hoc enim si esset, plurima parsu iniitatis periret, quæ humano generi communicatis invicem operis ac rebus enasci apta est. Et ni promissa servandi necessitas foret, haudquaquam liceret rationes aliorum hominum subsidiis superstruere. *Quin et ex decepta fide justissimæ querelarum bellique causæ pullulare sunt idoneæ.*

PUFFENDORFII, *De Off. Hom. & Civis*, Lib. i. Cap. ix.

THE WHOLE TRANSLATED FROM THE ORIGINAL OF THE PORTUGUESE INVESTIGATOR,

BY THE

TRANSLATOR OF "ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS," &c.

LONDON:

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1813.

RFJCB

INTRODUCTION.

THE British nation is too generous, and its government too enlightened, to tolerate the abuses which may be committed by any of its subjects. The acts of individuals must not, therefore, be laid to the charge of an impartial public, who disdain and disavow every thing that has the least appearance of being either oppressive or unjust. If, therefore, a few of our naval officers have overstepped the bounds of propriety, and some of our inferior courts of admiralty have lent them their legal countenance, let them suffer the disgrace attendant on such a foul charge. If, however, their conduct has been misrepresented, or if they have acted only from an honourable, though mistaken zeal, it is their duty to vindicate themselves from aspersions which are unworthy to rest on the characters of British officers and of honest men.

From these prefatory remarks, I wish to call the attention of my readers to the conduct which some of our naval officers have observed towards several Portuguese vessels trading on the coast of Africa. It is no part of my duty, and still less

my desire, to prove that they were influenced by a sordid self-interest, and a rapacious lust of lucre. Far be it from me to suppose that any of my countrymen could have thus been actuated! But be that as it may, the fact is not less real, that the flag and national independence of our most ancient, most intimate, and most faithful ally, have been insulted.

As a plain and honest Englishman, I feel that such a charge is deserving of the most serious investigation; and I feel also that the mutually advantageous connection between this country and Portugal will be in danger of being interrupted, if not dissolved, unless injuries are prevented; or if they should unhappily happen, unless they receive as early a reparation as possible. Impressed with these sentiments, and knowing that it ought to be the primary object of the pursuits of every man to promote the welfare of his country, I have thought that I could not make a better use of my small acquisitions in Portuguese literature, than by submitting to the impartial judgment of my countrymen, through the medium of a faithful translation, two Representations which the merchants of Bahia lately made to the Prince Regent of Portugal. We are indebted for our acquaintance with those interesting documents in this country to the Portuguese Investigator. The complaints

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of the merchants are deep and loud against the English navy. I hope, therefore, that this translation will have the effect of directing a general public attention to the matter, and that the English nation will unite with government in expressing a formal and dignified disapprobation of such injuries, and an eagerness to make every reparation in their power. Let the Portuguese be confirmed in their favourable opinion of us, since they generously refuse to consider their wrongs as national acts; and let us show them, that our country, from its proud eminence of glory, candidly disavows any particular instance of tyranny and injustice, with which a few unprincipled and rapacious individuals may have sullied the proud character of the British navy, and that unimpeached integrity which ought to be the distinguishing feature of the British race.

It is not to be dissembled that the Portuguese vessels seized by our navy were employed in carrying on the slave-trade. That, however, does not alter the nature of the wrongs which the Brazilian merchants have received. The trade is, indeed, unjust, unnatural, and execrable, and cannot be too severely punished in English subjects who are guilty of it; and who dare to barter human blood for the sake of a detestable gain. The true state of the case is, therefore, that according to the law of nations, the Portuguese

flag covers that trade when carried on by its own subjects, and according to existing treaties; and that we have no right to violate its independence. Notwithstanding that I feel the natural abhorrence of an Englishman for that traffic—an abhorrence in which the Brazilian merchants themselves declare that they participate, I cannot help subscribing to the justice of the Portuguese doctrine; in defence of which I offer these introductory remarks, and the subsequent translated documents.

I rejoice that the trade has been abolished by this country, and that the carrying on of it is become dangerous, and highly penal; and I am also conscious that every humane Lusitanian looks forward with anxiety towards the period when the circumstances of his country will allow of its final abolition.

I make these concessions, that it may not be supposed that I am still attempting to defend one of the foulest stains of modern Europe; but I trust, at the same time, that my feelings will never make me incapable of arguing with candour, and deciding with justice.

The reasons on which, it appears to me, that the Portuguese ought not to be molested, are the following. It is well known that their benevolent

lent Prince is friendly to the abolition; who consented, with that view, in the Brazilian treaty, that the trade should be limited to particular parts and ports of Africa. Great Britain, therefore, stipulated, that within that limitation, at least as to herself, the trade might still be carried on by the Portuguese, according to the law of nations; or to speak more accurately, she declined the right of interfering. It is therefore a manifest infraction of the treaty to molest their slave-traders, while they act according to these stipulations, which are well known to be still in force. It is plain that they put this construction upon it, since they complain only of the molestations which have been experienced by those vessels which were trading in a lawful way. If any have been guilty of trading not within the meaning of the treaty, the Brazilians have the liberality of not claiming them; perhaps considering their confiscation as the just punishment of their transgression. They accuse our countrymen of having grossly departed from the sense of the treaty, to be enabled to seize their property; but it is not fair to pass sentence on their conduct till they have been heard in their own defence. If, however, they have acted in the manner described, I must be satisfied with calling their prizes *injudicious;* as from a desire not to inflame the public mind, I shall refrain from giving them so harsh a name as they deserve.

Another argument is, that these captures are violations of the independence of Portugal; and in a time of peace, are not many degrees removed from piracy. Every nation has a right to carry on what trade and intercourse it pleases with its own dominions, and other nations have no more right to interrupt it than individuals have to commit depredations on the high road. Allowing that the trade is unnatural and nefarious in the fullest extent, yet that will not sanction an attack on the property of a friendly power. Suppose it is against the law of nations, who has constituted Great Britain a judge of that delinquency in others of which she was guilty herself but a few years before? Have we a right to start up as the reformers of the abuses of other nations? The melancholy example of the French revolution has made the English government and people disclaim any principle of the kind. We have no more right to disturb the internal concerns of Portuguese commerce, than we have to seize on the dominions of the Grand Signior, that we may destroy his despotism. We flatter ourselves that reason is on our side, when we have force to carry our plans into execution; as otherwise, a sense of right would as much preclude us from attacking a Portuguese unarmed vessel, as its impracticability would prevent us from attempting to revolutionize the Turkish empire. If the trade is against the law of nations, yet it

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is a great deal more so to commit depredations under that specious pretence, and to be guilty of a really heinous delinquency, to punish a much smaller one in others.

The Brazilians, in a manly and dignified manner, acknowledge that the trade is disgraceful to humanity, and ought to be abolished; but they use the argument, so repeatedly urged in the House of Commons, that the proper period is not yet arrived, and that the abolition of a trade of such long continuance must be gradual. They argue also, with equal cogency, that there are other rights to be protected, full as valuable as those of the Africans, and that an immediate cessation of that trade would be attended with the ruin of their country. When our merchants reasoned in the same way, they had their due weight with the legislature, and the abolition was postponed till it could be effected without inconvenience. And may not circumstances render that period later in Brazil than in England? or are not the most respectable men of the former better qualified to judge of its real interests than a few philosophical theorists in this country? The question of the slave-trade is of far more importance to the Brazilians than to us; and it is therefore natural that they should hesitate, over and over again, on the destruction of a system, which, if injudicious, might threaten the extinction of their

their population, and of the existence of their country. We can have, therefore, no right whatever to annoy the speculations of a people who are carrying on a trade which they imagine to be connected with their public and private welfare, especially if we receive no injury from it, and that people are our most ancient and most faithful allies.

It is the happiness of Britain that she is the first nation that generally leads the way to an increase of liberty, virtue, enlightenment, and civilization. But let not that proud boast be turned into an instrument of oppression against those less favoured portions of the human race who are not able to follow her in the same illustrious career, but after a considerable lapse of time. After a long and unparalleled parliamentary struggle, she has erased the foul stain of the slave-trade from her annals; but let it be also recollected, that even she did not admit that magnanimous policy, till a favourable period had arrived when she could abolish it without any serious injury to herself, by diverting her commerce and industry into other channels. The Brazilians proclaim that they follow exactly the same conduct, till the same fortunate period shall arrive for them. If Great Britain has pulled down a ruinous building, and replaced it by a superb mansion, it is not equitable that she should immediately

mediately compel her neighbours to rebuild, before they have acquired sufficient funds for that purpose.

It is unjust and ungenerous that we should avail ourselves of the fortunate circumstances of our situation to oppress other nations. We have reason to be proud of the great exertions that we have made in the cause of humanity, and that Providence has crowned the efforts of some of our best and wisest men in the arduous struggle against the slave-trade, to which our legislature has at length given a mortal blow. It is, perhaps, owing to their calm and temperate discussion, that in no part of the world is it now any more than tolerated on the grounds of expediency, and of the danger of sudden innovation. The final abolition is certain, and cannot be far distant. The spirit and the circumstances of the age tend as much towards it as those of a former period did towards its introduction. Let us not, therefore, by a false spirit of philosophy, endeavour to hasten the march of human happiness, and by so doing injure that great cause, and sully our own national character. Let us not detract from the humane, disinterested, and enlightened conduct of our legislature, by tolerating any acts of individual imprudence. Let us not forfeit the fair fame which is already acknowledged to be our due, and which shall be the theme of the

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envy and admiration of all the nations of the earth, when that great day of reparation of the wrongs of the human species shall arrive—the final abolition.

Narrow-sighted indeed must be those individuals who suppose that the capture of a few Portuguese vessels will contribute to the extinction of the trade; it will have no other effect than that of retarding it; and by calling the worst passions of the human heart into action, it may be, perhaps, productive of much national mischief. The Portuguese are brave and loyal. They are men, and they can feel and resent an insult. But let us use a more personal argument. If during that part of the French revolution that we were still at peace with that country, some of its infuriated demagogues had pronounced a general abolition, and captured, among the rest, some of our vessels employed in that trade, would the British nation have tamely submitted to such an interference? and yet that would have happened at a time that a strong party was struggling in parliament against the trade, and that the majority of the people were against its continuance. But the sense of the expediency or inexpediency would have been lost in the affront to our flag, and we should have immediately denounced vengeance on the aggressors. The warmest and the most visionary parliamentary orator in the cause

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of the Blacks, would have forgotten that cause in the wrongs of his country. He would have replied—" We will not have Frenchmen tell us, or force us to do what is right. We have native talent enough of our own to decide this question, without the assistance of any of their canting humanity and philosophy. We know that the trade is inhuman and unjust; but its abolition, as far as we are concerned, shall be our own act, and we shall know best when it may be done consistently with our interest and safety. In the meantime, whoever dares to insult the independence of the British flag, or commit depredations on the property it covers, shall not do it with impunity." Such would have been our feelings, and such our language. The Portuguese have feelings like us—feelings for their insulted national honour, and for the depredations committed upon their property. Our public indignation would have known no bounds, and would have scarcely given time for any amicable representations. At any rate, if the French government had hesitated to give a speedy satisfaction, we would, by a severe retaliation on the innocent, have compelled it to requite it on the offenders. Compared to what Englishmen would have done in such a case, the conduct of the Portuguese is moderate. Their language is indeed indignant, or, perhaps, even intemperate, but it is still remonstrance, and not reprisals; a sense of injus-

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tice received, and a consciousness that they are entitled to redress, and that it shall not be asked in vain.

It may be said that this moderation on the part of the Brazilians is the consequence of a prudential sense of their own weakness, and that resistance would be unavailing. If that is their motive, it is much to their honour that they do not wish to increase their misfortunes by retaliation, or make their own private wrongs the cause of an interruption of the good understanding subsisting between the two countries. Our countrymen, I am afraid, would not have acted with that caution; and from the irritability of their natures, they would have disdained to consider whether they had been too weak for resistance; they would have repelled force by force.

The Portuguese deny the charge of having lent their names to carry on the slave-trade with British capital. The vessels which they specify to have been captured under that pretence were undoubtedly unjustly condemned. If they know of any instance of real guilt of the kind, they pass it over in silence, and join with us in our detestation of it, and leave it to its merited punishment. No subject of any foreign power has a right to assist our own merchants in breaking or evading our laws, and to prostitute the flag of

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their sovereign, to enable them to carry on a nefarious traffic, without being equally amenable to the justice of both nations. I do not wish to inquire whether foreigners have been really guilty of such an offence, but to take it merely as a possible case, and to declare what I conceive would be our most honourable and spirited conduct.

The laws of England have prohibited English subjects from carrying on or being in any way concerned with the slave-trade; and have made it so highly penal, as to animadvert upon it as upon a felony. There are, however, men to be always found, who will run any risk in violating the laws of their country, when they think that their interest requires such a violation. Such are the few Englishmen who still pertinaciously carry on their usual traffic, in defiance of the legislature. The risk has increased, from the prohibition of carrying it under the British flag, and from the difficulty of eluding the vigilance of our cruizers. These cannot be too circumspect, nor our courts too severe against Englishmen thus basely and illegally employed. The Brazilians themselves will not deprecate any punishment that we may think proper to inflict. This danger of using the British flag has held out a strong temptation to have recourse to the flag of other nations. If our own countrymen do not scruple to do it, is it to be supposed that they will not find foreigners

of their own principles who will lend them every assistance? The former supplies the capital, and the latter the flag and the sanction of his name. There can be no doubt that we have a right to punish such frauds; taking care, however, that that should be done with the moderation and good sense which ought to characterize all our transactions with foreign powers. Whoever, either native or foreigner, offends against our laws, for the sake of a sordid lucre, makes himself liable to their animadversion. A foreigner, therefore, who affords the sanction of his name to an illegal employment of British capital, and who protects it with the flag of his sovereign, ought to be severely punished, and the loss of his vessel and cargo seems to be almost too little for his delinquency. He offends our dignity by infringing our laws, and he prostitutes the flag of his own country. *We have a right of search*, wherever there can be any reasonable ground of suspicion, and no objection can be made but against an abuse of our power.

If we discover offences of the kind, we punish our own subjects as felons, for having violated our own laws; and we punish foreigners with the confiscation of their property, for having abetted the former in their disobedience, contrary to existing treaties, and the good understanding and alliance of their respective countries.

tries. A foreign vessel thus circumstanced, is by that very act denationalized; since by perverting the purposes of his flag, he cannot be entitled to its protection, and would be as liable to condemnation from its sovereign as from our courts. I trust that such instances are but rare; but I trust also, that if any should be discovered, they will be visited with that exemplary rigour that will deter future offenders.

Foreigners, if they should be thus iniquitously employed, cannot have the least plea to offer in extenuation of their offence. It is not to increase the Black population, or the advantageous consumption of their colonial produce; nor is it in compliance with old habits and prejudices, which it is not yet prudent to oppose openly; but it is for gain.

Such combinations, or, at least, the report that there are such, is very injurious to the fair and honourable Portuguese merchant. It has excited a general suspicion in our officers, and led even the most conscientious of them to suppose, that every vessel on the coast of Africa, whose papers might not have been sufficiently clear, or which, on account of their ignorance of the language, they might not understand, must necessarily be trading illegally. This is an evil of the highest magnitude. The British nation will

do their part to remedy it, by punishing indiscriminately all delinquents; and it sincerely hopes that the Prince of the Brazils will discourage, by every means in his power, the existence of such partnerships, which would be so degrading and unworthy of the characteristic honour and good faith of the Portuguese people.

The merchants of Bahia complain that their ship papers were either objected to, or taken no notice of, though they were in due form. That is, indeed, the bitterest fruit of that system of fraud and perjury which the present unexampled state of Europe has produced. It has destroyed all confidence in those documents. Their indignation, founded on conscious rectitude, at being thus treated, is the effect of the still-prevailing honour and simplicity of their distant part of the globe. Did they live nearer to the grand scene for forging ship papers, and were better acquainted with the habits of Jewish industry, their wonder, if not their complaints, would utterly cease.

The two following Representations of the Brazilian merchants are couched in strong and indignant, though respectful terms. They do not pray for redress, but ask it as their due; and, with that good sense which distinguishes between the misconduct of individuals and the policy of the state,

state, they attribute their losses entirely to the former. They complain of the ruinous effects which the capture of their vessels have had upon their fortunes, and anticipated the most gloomy consequences from them to the prosperity of the Brazils. They had adventured their property on the faith of treaties, in the peaceable pursuits of commerce; and on the faith of those treaties, they demand satisfaction. They pay the highest compliments to the liberal and enlightened spirit of the British government and nation. What can be more honourable than such discrimination, when one would have supposed that their irritated feelings would have alienated them from every thing connected with the English name? or what can be fairer than their suggestion that the exact meaning of the Brazilian treaty should be ascertained, that they may know how far they can trade with safety, and that they may not expose their shipping to condemnation, through ignorance of the meaning given to its stipulations?

The next piece I have translated is a narrative of the treatment which two Portuguese vessels experienced at the Cape of Good Hope last year. I hope that the parties concerned will be able to say something in their own vindication, whenever the matter shall be brought before another

tribunal. If the facts are such as they are related, they well may make an Englishman blush.

I have translated it from an original and anonymous Portuguese paper. It seems to have been drawn up with a view to insertion in the Investigator, in which it will have probably appeared before these remarks issue from the press. I apprehend, from the language of the writer, that he must either be one of the sufferers, or in some respect connected with them. He could have hardly written with so much severity, or had recourse to such acrimonious epithets, if it were otherwise. I have softened his words, but still retained his meaning; as I conceive that asperity will rather delay than hasten the attainment of redress, and that terms of reproach can never, under any circumstances, be acceptable to an English public. Nor would I have mentioned this unguardedness of the original, had it not been to impress upon my readers how the minds of the Portuguese are agitated, and how, if redress is delayed, it is impossible to foresee the consequences.

I am willing to allow of some extenuation for the conduct of my countrymen, though I have no doubt of the reality of the grievances of the Portuguese. Naval officers cannot be supposed

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to be the best diplomatists, nor our colonial courts of admiralty to be composed of men of any great eminence in their profession: it is therefore probable, that some of the instances of oppression may have been owing to their ignorance of the Portuguese language, and a misconstruction of the meaning of the treaty: it may be also, that government has appointed men on those stations which have a connection with the slave-trade, who were well known to be averse to it, and who would be very vigilant in its suppression. These, in the zeal of a heated imagination, may have overstepped the bounds of discretion, and even been guilty of injustice.

The Brazilians attribute the conduct of our officers and courts to the most sordid motives; and with the above exceptions, I decline defending an untenable cause. Colonial and distant appointments are but too often looked upon as the means of acquiring opulence, or of repairing a broken fortune; to which grand object every scruple is to be sacrificed without hesitation or remorse. If such men there be, I leave them, on the discovery of their practices, to the bitterness of their own reflections, and the detestation of the public.

Those odious transactions are laid to the charge of individuals who have abused their de-

legated authority; but the nation is acquitted. Let us prove to the Brazilians, by the speedy restoration of their property, that they are not mistaken in their favourable opinion; and that Britain is not less conspicuous for her impartial justice, than for her courage and humanity. Let those individuals, if such there be, who have disgraced themselves, and, as far as in it lies, their country likewise, tremble for the consequences. Let not intrigue, or a false pity, stay the hand of national vengeance; but let the guilty, and them only, suffer. Let us, while we compensate the losses of our allies, shew them that we have laws that will rigorously punish those who have had the audacity, for their own private lucre, to try to ruin our best friends, and thence turn them into our most irreconcilable enemies.

I urge thus strongly for a full and speedy satisfaction, not only on the grounds of justice, but of the soundest policy. The Representations are decorous, because they believe that redress can be amicably obtained. Let that be either delayed or evaded, and the next remonstrance will assume a more angry and decisive tone. Every one knows what are the consequences when redress is denied. The case is the same among nations as in private life; with this difference in the latter, that unredressed injuries terminate either

either in mutual ill will, or in legal proceedings, or at most, in personal revenge. But national wrongs, when unredressed, gradually extend the circle of their baleful influence, and are the prelude to direct hostilities.

Far be it from me to insinuate that the intimate connection between the two nations is ever likely to be dissolved. It began in mutual wants and interest; and may Heaven grant that its permanency may be ensured by a recriprocity of affection founded on justice! But if we should disgust the Portuguese, the loss of their alliance would be severely felt; their means of hostility would not be so slender but that they might give annoyance, nor would the want of their trade be without causing much commercial and financial distress. It is not, therefore, our interest to excite irritation. We might indeed recall our army from the Peninsula, and Portugal would be lost; but the ports of the Brazils would remain shut against our lucrative and increasing commerce.

The Prince Regent of Portugal is much beloved by his subjects; for loyalty is the principal feature of the character of the Portuguese in every part of their history, which contains as many bright periods as that of any other nation in Europe. He is undoubtedly a man of good

intentions, who has discrimination to adopt, and spirit to act up to, a magnanimous resolution. He has also expressed his concurrence in the great work of humanity for abolishing the slave-trade; and he has stipulated by treaty, that the Inquisition shall not be established in his Brazilian dominions. But some visionary theorists of our own have repeatedly called upon our government to recommend that prince to do more—men who suppose that all things are practicable, and who adopt the meridian of Britain for that of every other country. His Royal Highness knows much better than they do what is most proper to be done; and he knows also, that by attempting too much, he might do a great deal of harm. But these theorists only look to the present moment, for the gratification of which they are regardless of future consequences. In every government, either free or despotic, there is, on any great question, always a public voice expressed, which a prudent sovereign will neither dare to disregard, nor to disobey. History abounds with instances of the kind; some very awful ones of which have happened in our times*. The Portuguese have fully expressed their determination about the slave-trade, and it would

* James II. Paul I. Gustavus IV. These three sovereigns owed their catastrophe to their having attended to foreign influence, in opposition to the wishes of their subjects.

would be cruel and impolitic in us to instigate him on to impracticable measures; and in his own ministers it would be treason to recommend their adoption. In a word, *the abolition is not in his power.*

Before I take my leave of the subject, I cannot help expressing a doubt that the abolition will not be fraught with all the blessings which some theoretical writers have imagined. I rejoice, however, that England has washed her hands clean of that foul stain on humanity. I shall state but one argument, " that the frequency of African wars will be diminished by the impossibility of disposing of captives to the traders." But is then the basis of human nature to be reformed by the Africans, and the world for the first time to see a millennium of happiness in the midst of their burning deserts and pestiferous swamps? In Europe we are civilized, and condemn no prisoners to slavery; and for the last thousand years we have professed Christianity; but the world has not been the more at peace, and ambition has found other motives than the paltry desire of getting slaves. With civilization, the boundaries of states, and the intercourse between them, has increased; and with them, in equal progression, the range of the miseries of warfare has been extended, till at different periods,

riods, the whole of Europe has been involved in one common scene of horror, carnage, and devastation. At this very moment, this boasted seat of arts and civilization affords the monstrous and inconsistent picture of a giant, with the olive of peace in one hand, and the sword of destruction in the other. The Africans are men like ourselves; and hence let us not expect from them more than human weakness and depravity can perform.

I have also translated from the Investigator the Analysis of a *History of the Western Islands, by Captain T. A. of the Light Dragoons.* It is an infamous work, and which must be highly offensive to the Portuguese government and nation. It is melancholy to reflect, that during a period of profound peace and alliance, there should be scribblers ready to embroil the two countries, just for the sake of their displaying a small smattering in politics. The work will be no doubt deservedly censured in the English Reviews; but I think it is of still more importance to the public and the legislature that they should know the sensation that it has made in our allies. He libels us, by supposing that we could be guilty of such an atrocious robbery as that of seizing the Western

Western Islands and Madeira; and, as far as lies in his power, he excites the jealousy and suspicion of the Portuguese government. I have some doubts whether he is an Englishman; for his principles are exactly those which have dictated the spoliations and annexations of the French Emperor, and which have no parallel in history, but in the conduct of the partitioners of Poland. Probably Captain T. A. calculates on the generosity and forbearance of the Portuguese; but I would advise him to put a stop to his calculations; for if an official complaint were to be made, I believe that ministers would not hesitate to make him take the consequences of a prosecution for a gross and scandalous libel.

I have added to this collection a letter from a gentleman of the island of St. Michael, in which he describes the indignation which the work of Captain T. A. has excited in the natives.

I know nothing of the editors of the Portuguese Investigator but from their patriotism and talents: they deserve the praise and gratitude of this country, for not confounding the profligacy of a few unprincipled individuals with the better sense of the nation; and I hope, that by their continuing to write with that decency, candour, justice, and well-understood spirit of liberty, which has hitherto distinguish-

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ed their highly-interesting journal, they will render signalized services to the two nations, and to the holy cause which they are now so heroically defending.

London, June 10*th*, 1813.

TO THE READER *.

WE have received copies of two energetic Representations, which the commercial body of the city of Bahia, in the Brazils, has addressed to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal, our lord and master, in which they set forth the violence which they have experienced from some individuals of the English navy, and from some of its courts of admiralty ; the former capturing, and the latter adjudging to be lawful prizes, several Portuguese vessels, which were engaged in the slave-trade on the Gold Coast, and in which they petition for a quick redress of such extensive grievances.

Our

* This is the advertisement with which the editors of the Investigator preface their insertion of the copy of the two Representations. They have omitted to give their date, which is probably owing to an oversight, and which does not in the least invalidate the authenticity of those interesting documents. The moderation and good sense of the editors deserve the highest commendation. It is thus, by a fair statement of facts, and not by inflammatory rhapsodies, that wrongs can ever be expected to be amicably redressed —a wonderful contrast with the conduct of a certain transatlantic power with which we are now unhappily at war.— *Translator.*

Our readers will recollect, that from the moment that we commenced the publication of the Investigator, we have unceasingly inculcated the imperious necessity of the strictest alliance between the Portuguese and British governments, and the most affectionate union between the individuals of both countries. It is, however, excusable to observe, that it is good faith alone, and the most perfect reciprocity, which can maintain that union; for if the individuals of either nation, through an improper use of their strength, or by any other means, should attack, as often as they can, the honour, the property, and the interests of the other, they will render such an intimate connection impossible, by compromising the two governments with each other; and will cause incalculable mischiefs, especially in the present embarrassed and distracted state of Europe.

There have been reports spread in London that the merchants of Bahia had recourse to violent measures to indemnify themselves, in some degree, for the enormous losses which they had suffered from the above-mentioned individuals of the English navy; but our readers will perceive, from the Representations which we are going to publish, that the merchants of Bahia are so far from employing violent and arbitrary means, which the Portuguese in general detest, that

that they have carried their complaints to the throne. If there appears in their remonstrances a sufficient energy, they also contain an expression of the highest respect and attachment to the sovereign; and if our merchants loudly complain in them of a few English individuals, they do not fail to render a due homage to the principles of justice, honour, and generosity, which so eminently distinguish the present English ministry, and the Prince Regent of Great Britain, from whom they may certainly expect a speedy reparation of their wrongs, if their representations should prove to be well founded. Already has the enlightened minister of his Britannic Majesty at Rio Janeiro expressed his excessive surprise at the above prizes; and already has he protested, that, according to his own opinion, the government of Great Britain does not countenance those proceedings, nor understands the tenth article of the treaty in the sense that it is understood at Sierra Leone. It is therefore to be hoped that this business will terminate to the satisfaction of the merchants of Bahia; and in the mean time, we cannot forbear inculcating upon our countrymen, that they should not confound the British nation and government with a few private Englishmen. Some of these take our vessels, and others advise the nation and government to seize our Western Islands and Madeira; the English nation and government disapprove,

disapprove, for certain, of such arbitrary proceedings; and reject, with indignation, proposals which are infamous and unworthy of them, and the adoption of which belongs exclusively to the tyrant of Europe.

REPRESENTATIONS.

A COPY

OF THE FIRST REPRESENTATION OF THE MERCHANTS OF BAHIA, TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE REGENT OF PORTUGAL.

Sir,

THE commercial body of the city of Bahia*, and especially the directors of the four Companies of Insurance, and the undersigned merchants of that city, approach the illustrious throne of your Royal Highness, with that submission, attachment, and loyalty, which has at all times distinguished this particular part of your subjects.

The

* This is the name now the most commonly used for St. Salvador, in the Bay of All Saints, in the Brazils. It is an archbishop's see, and was for a long time the capital of that country, of which it is still the second city.—*Translator.*

The important matter which your petitioners bring to the supreme knowledge of your Royal Highness, is not, Sir, a private question between subjects; it is not the business of a few; it is not a reparation for insults and individual actions; but it is such an one, as, by its consequences, is become the business of all; it is a thing in which the national point of honour and spirit are concerned; and lastly, it is an attempt against the flag, and the Portuguese independence, which has been violated and invaded in its very possessions.

The interests of the trade of Brazil are concerned, which are essentially connected with the finances and the patrimony of the state; the dignity and national honour are concerned, which have been disregarded, in contempt of the good faith, and the sanctity of public sanction; and in short, the glory of your Royal Highness is concerned, whose illustrious character is not less interested in fulfilling than in defending what you have stipulated. If, from the lofty throne, whence your Royal Highness rules over his vast dominions, your Royal Highness dispenses daily an equal solicitude in behalf of the prosperity, the fortune, and the harmony of all your subjects, your petitioners hope that they will now have a very distinguished place in the Royal consideration, and the paternal and august mind of your Royal Highness; and that they will obtain that reparation which they desire, through the

xcellent

excellent intentions of your Royal Highness, whose policy has ever been enlightened and magnanimous. Your petitioners seek for that reparation, less with a view to recover their fortunes and interests, which have been impaired, if not put in a total danger of losing their commercial existence, than to provide themselves with a security for the stability of trade—than to oppose themselves as a barrier to the subversion of the sanctity of public stipulations; and lastly, that at least the honour and the name of the Portuguese nation may be preserved in those very seas which it first navigated, and whose flag, for a length of years, was the only one that waved there, and where such mighty deeds were performed, as at this very day still strike all Europe with awe and admiration, and excite pleasing recollections in the heart of every Portuguese.

It is now more than a year since that your petitioners have been attacked in their properties by the British ships of war, which sail over the seas of the western coast of Africa. The course of their traffic, and of their commerce on that coast, has not only been restrained, but interrupted, and even annihilated, by means of captures, arbitrary, and entirely at variance with the letter of the stipulations between the Portuguese and English governments—stipulations which the British courts of admiralty have fully interpreted according to their own caprice. Portuguese property

having been thus annoyed and attacked in vessels which had the national flag flying, and were sailing under the calm security of good faith, the aggression and the injury is common to the whole nation, whose prosperity and maintenance in Brazil is derived, in a great measure, from the resources which this very traffic affords it, for the cultivation of the produce of the country, and for its consumption and exportation.

When your Royal Highness thought it proper to conclude with his Britannic Majesty the treaties of commerce and alliance, signed the nineteenth of February, 1810, the excellent and provident measures of your Royal Highness immediately embraced all the branches of national wealth; and, laying the basis of a durable alliance and harmony between the two governments, you sanctioned and regulated, with a wonderful policy, all the interests of the Portuguese trade, in the four parts of the world, over which it extends. When your Royal Highness declared himself, in those treaties, to coincide in his Britannic Majesty's sentiments of humanity and justice, for the abolition of the slave-trade, those sentiments in which your Royal Highness rivals, and even exceeds those of the sovereigns who have been most illustrious for their observance of the immutable principles of natural right, you knew, however, Sir, that that abolition could not immediately be procured by a sudden and speedy effect,

fect, but that it was necessary to let time ripen, by little and little, the fruits of an enlightened and philosophical policy; because it is not possible that the general order of things, which have received the stamp of ages, should thus be modified or changed, without running the risk of greater inconveniences. Your Royal Highness stipulated with his Britannic Majesty, that your subjects should continue to carry on the slave-trade in all the ports of that part of the African coast which is known in the Portuguese language by the name of *Costa da Mina*, (the Gold Coast,) as well as in all those others which are in the particular territories of the crown of Portugal, and that, too, exactly in the same manner that they formerly carried it on; since it was not your Royal intention to limit or restrain that trade in the above-mentioned ports. In consequence of that arrangement, your petitioners, reposing on the good faith of the literal meaning of that particular article of the treaty, which had been adopted and founded on the most attentive regard to the convenience of the present order of things, joined to the magnanimous intentions of your Royal Highness for the future, continued their slave-trade, fitting out their vessels for those ports, and making their clearances with a competent passport, and with the other papers from the government, which defined the Portuguese property of the hull, its

cargo, and its objects of trade. It was thus that they navigated them under the security of the Portuguese flag, and the protection of the treaty. But notwithstanding this, his Britannic Majesty's ships of war have searched, attacked, captured, and made prizes of the Portuguese vessels, which they have met with on the Gold Coast, and also of some others which were sailing beyond those seas; and, palliating the criminality of their captures with pretences and arbitrary principles, which are subversive of all maritime law, they have conducted them, according to the annexed relation*, either into the port of the colony of Sierra Leone, or into some of the other dependencies of the British empire. It is there that all their reclamations have been refused, and all their protests rejected, which are admissible in similar cases, even in a state of war. The officers and crews have also been treated with the same severity as if they had been enemies; and having been

* These Representations refer, in several places, to some accompanying documents, which have not appeared in the Portuguese Investigator. Indeed, as they could only have been considered in the light of vouchers to establish the facts here stated, they would have served no other purpose than that of taking up the room intended for more interesting matter in that ingenious publication. The public neither wishes for, nor wants such circumstantial details; and the only place where they can be useful is, when they shall come to form a part of an important diplomatic discussion. —*Translator.*

been prevented from obtaining any legal redress, the English courts and authorities have proceeded to pass sentence, and condemn their vessels as good and lawful prizes. This is an explosion which has burst out against the good faith of engagements, and against the regard and dignity which are due to nations and to their governments—that good faith, which is the main support of all policy, and of every alliance! This explosion, Sir, has ruined the fortunes of many individuals, and of many families; it has paralyzed the trade of the Brazils on the coast of Africa, and has withdrawn from the general circulation a highly important capital of two millions of crusadoes. Among other consequences which have been severely prejudicial to the state and to Brazil, are a diminution of the merchant shipping, a beginning of the destruction of the tobacco planting, and a decay of all the other Brazilian agriculture, through the want of hands as strong as those of the blacks are in comparison of the natives. It has also caused a deficiency in the duties, tythes, and imposts, which are charged on tobacco and rum, and other commodities, in exchange for which gold-dust used to be imported, to increase the quantity of the specie in circulation; and lastly, it has caused an annihilation of the royal revenues. It is thus that at the same time that so much is done in the defence of the rights of man, those other rights are ne-

glected, from which are derived the laws which maintain the harmony of society. Your petitioners, therefore, penetrated with the greatest attachment for your Royal Highness's person, and emboldened by the love of truth, hope that you will allow them to enumerate, in the august presence of your Royal Highness, the sophistical pretences of which the courts of admiralty, and the officers of the English navy, have availed themselves, for their capturing and condemning the Portuguese vessels that sail on the Gold Coast, and even on the high seas. Your petitioners feel also persuaded, that a simple explanation of such odious facts, and that, too, founded on the most sinister supposition, will be more than sufficient to obtain for them, from your Royal Highness, indemnity and reparation for the past, and security for the future.

The following are the pretexts of which the courts of admiralty, and the officers of the English navy, have availed themselves to capture, confiscate, and condemn the Portuguese vessels, which are declared and specified in the annexed relation:—

FIRST PRETEXT.

Portuguese vessels, which were originally foreign built, or at least not Portuguese, although owned,

owned, navigated, and managed, by Portuguese subjects, cannot be employed in the slave-trade.

This pretext served for the seizing and condemning, as good prizes, the galley Urbano, and the schooner Volante, which had cast anchor in the port of Cabinda, and the brig Calypso, in that of Onin. The charge against the two former was for their being American built, and the latter English; to which was added, against the two first, that they had been fitted out at Liverpool. But this latter circumstance was falsely pretended by the sentence, for the galley Urbano was fitted out at Bahia, and thence went on its voyage to Cabinda; and the schooner Volante had also been fitted out at Lisbon, and after touching at Bahia, had departed for the same destination.

But even granting that the hulls were originally foreign built, yet it cannot be denied, that by a voluntary and legitimate purchase made of them by Portuguese subjects in your Royal Highness's dominions, the said vessels had become Portuguese property, having been nationalized by the act of sale, by which they passed into the power, possession, and management of Portuguese subjects. It is indeed an indisputable and universal maxim of public law, that a thing which, by a legal acquisition, becomes the property of a new owner, participates also in his nature and privileges. This is that maxim which

not

not only serves as a foundation for all private dealings between individuals, but also supports all the great political transactions between nations and governments. Nor can the capture and condemnation of those particular vessels be defended by a prevarication of the last sentence of the fifth article of the treaty of commerce and navigation, which your Royal Highness has concluded with his Britannic Majesty, although that was done by the court of admiralty of Sierra Leone, in pronouncing its sentence of condemnation against the galley Urbano; in which it says, that "*that vessel lost the protection of the Portuguese flag from its having been equipped and fitted out at Liverpool.*" But that perversion of the meaning cannot be admitted, for as much as the high contracting parties had in view to define and determine, in that article, what was to be understood by Portuguese and British ships, as well concerning those which ought to be admitted in the ports of either nation, as concerning the regulation of the duties which are declared in it; and even if this should not be the literal meaning of that stipulation, one cannot, according to the principles of sound reason, infer from it, on a different supposition, that it permits and authorizes this kind of captures, which are in defiance of the good faith with which it is always understood that all national engagements are contracted. If that were the case, then Portu-

guese

guese ships would be left at liberty to make similar prizes of British vessels, and that too on the identical supposition of their being foreign built.

The obvious and literal meaning of that article, about foreign-built Portuguese ships, is surprisingly confirmed in an official note of Marquis Wellesley to your Royal Highness's ambassador in London, of the fifth of January, 1811; and by the opinion of the Board of Trade and Plantations, which was taken the twenty-sixth of December of the same year.

From all which the plain conclusion is, that no foreign-built Portuguese vessels, unless as prizes to ships of war, or letters of marque, and after having been condemned as good and lawful prizes by the competent tribunals, shall be admitted into the ports of Great Britain, and considered there as Portuguese property. That, however, does not by any means, either expressly or tacitly, authorize the officers of the English navy to capture, confiscate, and condemn, foreign-built vessels, sailing under the Portuguese flag, and furnished with passports, and other legal documents, from their government, to prove that the property and management of the vessel, and the whole of its cargo and traffic, belong to Portuguese subjects. With respect to those vessels, therefore, the only disadvantage they

they labour under is, that they are prohibited from entering the ports of Great Britain.

SECOND PRETEXT.

The Portuguese merchants associate themselves with English partners to carry on the slave-trade, a circumstance which is contrary to the laws of Great Britain, which prohibit any English subject from engaging, or having any concern in that branch of commerce.

The officers of the frigate Indiana had recourse to this pretext for searching, capturing, and causing to be condemned at the islands of St. Thomas and Providence, the brig Falcon, and the brigantine Bom Amigo; the former on its voyage from Bahia to the island of Cuba, and the latter on its return from that island to Pernambuco, both which vessels had sailed thither to sell slaves from the Portuguese dominions.

It is the justifications which are made before the constituted authorities, and by means of which they take cognizance if there are foreigners or not in the firm, and if the trade is conformable to the laws, which render legitimate any vessel or commerce, and show that its nature, the persons on whose account the voyage is undertaken, and all those who are interested in the hull,

hull, the cargo, and the enterprizes, act according to public stipulations.

Besides those justifications, which are authenticated by the ship-papers and the clearance, which permits the sailing of the vessel, and the destination of its trade, what fully verifies it is to be found in the journals of the ship, in the letters of order, and in all the other instructions which usually attend a vessel and its cargo.

When a ship of war wishes to be informed of the property and the good faith of the flag of any merchant vessel, it examines its clearance, passport, and other papers ; and if it judges them to be regular, (a judgment which is not purely arbitrary, but which ought to be determined by a reciprocal good faith,) it maintains it in its flags. But now the officers of his Britannic Majesty's frigate who examined the above-mentioned brigs, not being satisfied with the production of the clearances, passports, journals, and other ship-papers, which removed every shadow of doubt about any foreign partnership in the hull, the cargo, and the trade, did, in an arbitrary and capricious manner, fancy doubts and suspicions; and without any regard for their own character, despising the sanctity of universally-adopted maritime regulations, and turning to ridicule the hand and seal of the Portuguese authorities, took, confiscated, and hostilely conducted into ports of the British empire, those particular vessels,

sels, under the pretence that they might be there examined, and the nature of their traffic ascertained. The clearances, and the other papers of the brig Falcon, were so conclusive, that the very Vice-Admiralty Court of the island of St. Thomas, where it had been sent in, could not dispense itself from judging it to be a bad prize, a decision from which the officers of the capturing frigate had the immodesty to interpose an appeal to the High Court of Admiralty in London, a circumstance which well shows their insatiable thirst after prizes, or perhaps, the abuse of their powerful maritime influence: and even granting that there might have been some well-founded suspicions of a foreign partnership in those vessels, of which there was not the least, yet such violent and hostile proceedings are neither legitimate nor adopted by civilized and friendly nations to obtain information about a thing; and indeed, if after ship-papers have been regularly produced, they are not thought worthy of credit, there is then an end of good faith, and of all naval security*.

THIRD

* The grievances here stated are to be taken as some of the sad results of the extensive and iniquitous systems of forging ship-papers. In fact, those documents have, in a great measure, now lost their former credit in the eyes of the world. The system has increased the suspicions of even the most honourable and conscientious of our naval officers; and

THIRD PRETEXT.

Portuguese vessels purchase and deal in slaves in those ports which are comprehended under the denomination of the Gold Coast, according to the stipulations of the tenth article of the treaty of alliance and amity. The English naval officers have at one time fixed the demarcation of that coast from Cape Three Points to Cape Formosa, and at another they have limited it to the port of Ajuda, or to those other places where the Portuguese flag might be flying.

The first restriction of the Gold Coast occasioned the capture and condemnation of the schooner Marianna, and of the brigantine Venus; the former having been fallen in with while under sail off the port of Jaque Jaque, and the latter while at anchor in the port of Badagre.

The second restriction gave room to the seizure of the brigantines Americano D'Estino and Dezengano, which were buying slaves at Porto Novo, and to that of the smacks Lindeza and Flor do Porto, which were under the protection of Onin, and also to that of the brigantine S. Joaozinho, which

and if any individuals should be inclined to act arbitrarily, they have a ready excuse for their conduct, in pretending good motives; and the fear of having been imposed upon by a fabrication.—*Translator.*

which happened to be trading at Cape Corso. All these facts are authenticated in the following account. That part of the western coast of Africa which stretches from north to south, and which in the Portuguese language is called "*Costa da Mina,*" has always been understood to be from Cape Palmas as far as Cape Formosa. The Portuguese nation was the first that with so much daring and glory visited these coasts; and it is still jealous of the names with which it distinguished them, in proportion as its discoveries advanced, and as it acquired new information.

There is not, perhaps, a single port or bay from Cape Nao, the first attempt of Portuguese navigation, as far as Cape Guardafui, and even beyond it, which the Portuguese vessels did not visit, while they explored the whole of the eastern and western coast, and distinguish them with national appellations, which are still preserved to this day in maps and books of geography, and even in the different dialects of their inhabitants.

The Gold Coast, most illustrious Sir, has ever been marked out from Cape Palmas to Cape Formosa. The testimony of the most ancient and the most experienced navigators of that coast have made oath of it in the annexed affidavit; and according to an immemorial tradition among the merchants of Brazil, it has always been thus understood and called in our tongue. It was on the good faith of this that your petitioners prosecuted

secuted their trade to the different ports of that coast, that they formed speculations, and that the government authorized them with its sanction; since the clearances and the passports are an act by which the state not only permits the sailing of a vessel for its destination, but judges it to be in conformity to law, and protects it with its seal. If it were not well understood that all the ports to which the vessels in question sailed were comprehended in the above article of the treaty, which says, "*and other ports of Africa situated on the coast which is commonly called, in the Portuguese language, Costa da Mina,*" it is plain that neither the government would grant its passports or licences, nor would the merchants apply for them, even if they could procure them under false pretences. For if indeed they ventured to trade contrary to the dispositions of the treaty, they would expose themselves to the danger of failing in their speculations, and of losing, besides, their vessels and the goods they had purchased. This agreement of the good faith with which the constituted authorities gave the passports, and with which the merchants applied for them, and protected themselves with them to carry on their trade, seems to afford your petitioners another reason for claiming an adequate indemnity and reparation.

There is need only for a little reflection, to perceive to what point the British naval officers have carried their arbitrary pretensions in that

respect. When they captured the schooner Marianna, they did not hesitate to declare that the Gold Coast, or the ports designated in the treaty by that collective name, was to be understood to extend from Cape Three Points to Cape Formosa; but when they saw afterwards that the Portuguese shipping confined itself within that new demarcation of the Gold Coast, they proclaimed that the expression of the treaty was to be taken as restricted to the port of Ajuda, or to those other places where the Portuguese flag might be flying. This latter interpretation is so violent and unnatural, that it requires no refutation. And, indeed, the English authorities have had recourse to so many prevarications, from the spirit of that article of the treaty, to legalize the excessive violence committed by those naval officers in the capture of Portuguese vessels, that the Vice-Admiralty Court of Sierra Leone had the effrontery to declare, in its sentence of condemnation against the schooner Marianna, that it was adjudged to be a lawful prize, "*Because it was a vessel* (such are the official words) *illegally equipped, fitted out, and employed in carrying on a trade in African slaves, contrary to the treaty of alliance and amity between the Prince Regent of Portugal and his Britannic Majesty; the trading in whom has been abolished, through motives of humanity, by the greater part of civilized nations, and which, at the present moment, is legally authorized by none.*" It was also preten-

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ces of this kind which produced the condemnation of the galley Urbano. Oh, may that declaration, which is so positive, so general, and so decisive, and which of course supposes a deliberation already universally proclaimed by all the governments of Europe, be found to agree with what has been stipulated in the above article of the said treaty! But even, Sir, supposing, what was not the case, that some Portuguese merchants had transgressed the provisions of the treaty, by dispatching their vessels and buying slaves out of the ports included in the Gold Coast, did there thence result a right or legal plea for the courts and officers of the English navy to constitute themselves as the judges of maps and charts, or to fix the boundaries of what is meant by this or that coast, according to their own discretion, and thus take upon themselves the office of interpreters and executors of the treaty? Could there accrue thence any solid right to them to capture, confiscate, and condemn Portuguese vessels, which were under the protection of the national flag, whose navigation had the legal sanction of their government, and which, as belonging to a friendly and allied power, were in a situation to claim the protection of the British navy, and not to fear it as an enemy? Was it either reasonable, or in conformity to that mutual justice which nations owe to each other, that friendly vessels, which were lying in a free port, should be com-

pelled to weigh anchor, and depart precipitately within a short and determinate period? And was it not interrupting, and thus causing a disappointment in their trade, to the severe injury, and even to the total ruin of the owners and the factors, who had ventured very considerable capitals in that speculation? And did not those English naval officers act in the same manner against the Portuguese vessels mentioned in the list, and which they did not send into Sierra Leone, perhaps only because they could not spare means from their small force for that purpose? And have they not also carried their violence and hostility to such a pitch as to lay hold of the private property of the masters, officers, and crews, and acted against the subjects of your Royal Highness, in the same manner as they would act against the subjects of a hostile government, who had been taken prisoners in battle? Can such summary remedies be permitted, without having been preceded by a mutual understanding, declarations, and determinate engagements, between the two governments? Have not those acts a tendency to discompose the minds of men, and to produce consequences of the highest importance on the public feeling, which may be easily excited by the subversion of the fortune of so many families? And is it credible that a zeal for the rights of humanity, and a desire of improving its condition, has led them to commit so many acts of arbitrary

arbitrary power? And can that have been the motive of those who, instead of granting freedom to the captives whom they have found on board Portuguese vessels, as they seem to hint, take them forcibly to the colony of Sierra Leone; and having there changed the name of slaves into that of servants, employ them on their plantations, and make them contribute to the increase of their population, and to all the labours of civilized life?

But, Sir, your petitioners, the commercial body, and all the subjects of your Royal Highness, feel at the same time too much respect for the wisdom and the justice of the Prince Regent of Great Britain, and that of his enlightened ministry, to believe that insults of this kind can proceed from the acts of a government which is as moderate as it is prudent; and indeed they are persuaded, that they will afford them such a reparation as will consolidate more than ever the eternal alliance and friendship which have been sworn between the two nations. Such then is the series of the atrocities and the depredations which some of the admiralty courts, and British naval officers, have perpetrated against the good faith, the friendship, and the flag of Portugal; and which your petitioners have laid open in the sovereign presence of your Royal Highness, having been emboldened to do it from their regard for the national dignity, and from a

desire to repair their losses and the ruin of their fortunes.

It is well known how the powerful hands of your Royal Highness sustain and steer in safety the vessel of state; how your truly illustrious and magnanimous liberality and foresight have secured the happiness of Brazil; and how you have paid a particular attention to the interests and the prosperity of commerce. Be then, Sir, graciously pleased, by an effect of your royal and paternal munificence, to provide a redress of the grievances of your petitioners, who pray, again and again, not only for a restitution and compensation for the value of their ships, their cargoes, and their charges, and for the interruption of their profits, but also for a disavowal of the affront done to the Portuguese flag and independence. Your petitioners likewise pray, that your Royal Highness will order a declaration to be made of the ports where they may continue to buy and deal in slaves, and of all the other particulars which are necessary to be known for the prosecution of that trade, that they may thus be enabled to shelter themselves against any sinister meaning or prevarication of the stipulations of the treaty.

Your petitioners cannot avoid bringing to the just knowledge of your Royal Highness, and describing, with a melancholy freedom, that this blow which has unexpectedly struck the city of

Bahia,

Bahia, has convulsed its commerce, which had already been impaired by the critical circumstances of Europe, whose principal markets are found shut against colonial produce. Indeed it will be soon reduced to a total annihilation, if the only channel which it has yet remaining for the exportation of its rum, tobacco, and other produce, should be obstructed by an absolute prohibition of purchasing slaves.

The merchants of Brazil proclaim, in the face of the whole world, the same sentiments of humanity and philanthropy of which the British nation makes such boast and ostentation, for the attainment of the abolition of the dishonourable slave-trade, as offensive to the laws of nature and to the rights of man. At the same time, like the English merchants at a former period, who petitioned their government to have the space of twenty years allowed for its successive and gradual abolition, they acknowledge that this salutary result of the enlightenment of the age, and of the well-understood interests of society, can be carried into effect but by a slow and leisurely process, and not by a sudden death-blow, which would be subversive of established principles, already firmly fixed by length of time and the inveteracy of prejudices.

At the view of such powerful motives, your petitioners, prostrating themselves before the illustrious throne of your Royal Highness,

Pray, that your Royal Highness, through those means which are of your sovereignty, and which you will approve of best in your royal consideration, your Royal Highness will be graciously pleased to attend to the prayer of your petitioners, to the end that their vessels may be restored to them, and that they may have satisfaction and be indemnified for all the injuries which they have suffered, to the total ruin of their fortunes. They also pray that your Royal Highness will, besides, be graciously pleased to obtain securities for the future against similar attacks upon the Portuguese flag and commerce, that this latter may not be annihilated once for all; and that the ports of the coast of Africa may be specified, in which your petitioners may continue to buy slaves, and that all the other circumstances and particulars necessary for the carrying on of that trade may be regulated.

And your petitioners shall ever pray.

A COPY

A COPY

OF THE SECOND REPRESENTATION OF THE MERCHANTS OF BAHIA, TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE REGENT OF PORTUGAL.

Sir,

The commercial body of the city of Bahia, and especially the undersigned merchants, in a submissive and respectful manner again prostrate themselves before the illustrious throne of your Royal Highness; they are again going to bring to your royal knowledge, the last aggressions and the most atrocious violences, with which the officers of the English navy, as if they were obstinately bent upon annihilating our trade on the coast of Africa, do not cease, not only to insult and attack the Portuguese character, independence, and property, but even to disrespect and hold in contempt the very flag of your Royal Highness, and the most ancient and most sacred rights of your illustrious sovereignty.

All those pretences to which hitherto the British naval officers and their admiralty courts have had recourse, have served them as a scaling-ladder,

der, with which they might, by little and little, assault the Portuguese trade on the coast of Africa by means of their navy. They seem as if they would proclaim, to the ruin of ancient establishments, that proposition, which even the English government has acknowledged to be inadmissible, that the slave-trade could be put an end to all at once. It is thus that they would restrain our commercial powers, and reduce us to a purely passive state. It is thus, too, that they would absolutely deter the Portuguese from that coast, and prevent their having any participation in those advantages which they themselves derive from their trade there beyond any other nation, and that they alone might remain completely masters of the gold-trade.

Hitherto, Sir, the Portuguese vessels which have been confiscated on the Gold Coast, and even on the high seas, had been seized under pretences, which were neither plausible nor tolerable, but which had always been prevarications of the treaties of commerce and alliance. At one time, the article which defined Portuguese property had been denationalized; and at another, the meaning and denomination of the Gold Coast had been perverted, and limited only to those ports which the captors thought proper; and lastly, at another, they presupposed that there were English partners in those commercial concerns, the nature and lawfulness of which was attested

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by the most authentic and the most legal documents.

The captors thus hoped that their arbitrariness, their avarice, and their despotism*, which are the infallible consequences of their powerful naval influence, would be able to escape unnoticed, by means of those evasions, the only real motive of which can only be attributed to an abuse of force, and which are never allowed to be pleaded in the great court of political justice and of the law of nations. But now, because the Portuguese merchants had beforehand calculated upon those pretexts, and foreseen those suppositions, those officers of the English navy have found themselves under the necessity of tearing off the mask, and proclaiming, by their deeds, under the cant of a suspicious philanthropy, that it is their design to destroy, once for all, the Portuguese trade on the coast of Africa, in spite of the most solemn sanctions, the most express treaties, and the most sacred conventions. Hence they had recourse to the last measure, since the others were insufficient, which was, to pronounce by

* It would have been more guarded in the petitioners not to have attributed the worst of all motives to the captors. They belong to a profession of brave and honourable men, and ought to be thought such, at least till the matter has received some further elucidation. Allowances, however, are to be made for the state of the angry feelings of the Brazilian merchants.—*Translator.*

by their actions, and in the excess of their avarice, that whatever may be the port, whatever may be the circumstances, and whatever may be their motives, Portuguese ships must not trade in slaves on the coast of Africa. Behold then, Sir, what can be proved by a series of facts, which have been practised without interruption for about two years past, and the last of which form the subject of the present application.

The representations which your petitioners have laid at the feet of your Royal Highness, concerning the evident insults which have been perpetrated by the officers of the English navy against the Portuguese vessels trading on the Gold Coast, have informed your Royal Highness, that the said officers of the English navy, and their admiralty courts, with a view to legalize their prizes, had sheltered themselves under the vague pretext, and the sinister meaning, that in the tenth article of the treaty of alliance and amity, concluded between your Royal Highness and his Britannic Majesty, the port of Ajuda only was specified by name, and those other places which constitute the actual dominions of the crown of Portugal; and that in either of those only was to be understood the stipulated liberty of carrying on the slave-trade; and that therefore those vessels only which might be exactly found in those ports, ought to enjoy the protection of the Portuguese flag, and to be favoured by the

spirit

spirit of the treaty. These interpretations, however, are so violent, so forced, and so unnatural, and even so ridiculous, that they could not help shewing, in one point of view, an ambition and thirst after prizes; and in another, a plan traced out to put an end in that way to all our trade on that very coast which our countrymen were the first to make known to the European nations.

Neverthelesss, that this interpretation might be stamped with a certain degree of good faith, the English ships continued to respect those vessels which they examined in the port of Ajuda, and uniformly proclaimed that it was there only that they acknowledged the legality of the slave-trade, because it was the place expressly mentioned in the treaty, and because there was there likewise a Portuguese fort, under whose colours the national property was in safety.

In consequence of this, the Portuguese merchants began to dispatch their vessels to that port only, in the most perfect security that their dealings would meet with no obstructions, and that they would be able to finish them in a quiet and peaceable manner. Indeed, it was not possible to believe, or even to expect, that after what those same Englishmen had said, they would ever suffer any aggression from them in that port, concerning whose immunity they had not dared to raise any doubt.

But,

But, most illustrious Sir, experience soon showed that snares were preparing, that there should not be food wanting to their avarice, and that they might likewise pursue their same system of annihilating our commerce on the coast of Africa. In a word, Portuguese vessels stationed in the harbour of Ajuda could not escape from that desperate thirst after prizes. They were there at anchor, under the shelter of the national fort, and protected by those most sacred rights, which could hardly be violated in a state of open war. They were protected by the royal standard of their sovereign, and officially employed his illustrious name to repel the aggression; at the same time that they shewed the greatest good faith, loyalty, and confidence, and at the same juncture when they might likewise have employed their force to resist force, and, perhaps, to have used reprisals. This was the recompence which they received for offering water to the English squadron, of which it was in want, and for delivering their papers to it with the greatest quickness and sincerity. Our vessels thus fall into the hands of their friends, as if they fell into the hands of enemies, who, trusting but little to their own strength, increase it by surprise and dissimulation. Of our ships, some are taken, and hostilely and barbarously carried into Sierra Leone; and others are obliged to depart precipitately from

from the port, and to abandon their trade, and to return home quickly, that they might escape from another and already-threatened invasion.

The Portuguese merchants, Sir, would be afraid to express their serious complaints against the English navy in such strong and energetic language, if they were not convinced that the British nation and government, the most ancient and the most faithful friend and ally of your Royal Highness, cannot fail to look at those depredations under the same point of view, and to consider them as the unauthorized acts of a small portion of its subjects, who have been obviously led away by a spirit of ambition and rapacity. Nor, on the other hand, would they employ such remonstrances, if they were not conscious that the grievances of which they complain will be found to be fully substantiated by the best attested and the most solid proofs.

Your petitioners, penetrated with the highest humility, and at the same time with the greatest respect, are emboldened to call the sovereign attention of your Royal Highness to the documents which form the annexed justification. They offer it to the most just consideration of your Royal Highness, as the fundamental basis of this representation, as being the most juridical and most powerful analysis that can be produced against the unheard-of aggressions of the officers of the English navy against the unalienable rights of

your

your Royal Highness, against the independence and the national honour, and against the properties and fortunes of your petitioners; and, indeed, it is only necessary to represent facts of this kind, and which are of so atrocious nature, in their true light, to be able to combat them successfully. They offer that justification to the revision and the impartial wisdom of Great Britain herself, and they refer the cognizance of it to the whole world, and to that of whatever has been deemed sacred in it; in the same manner that it shows, that a spirit of good faith, integrity, and a wish to conform to the treaty, directed the Portuguese merchants in all their speculations; it shows as well, that the officers of the English navy have trampled under foot all the maxims of maritime law, and have thus disturbed the harmony between the two nations; and without any moderation, reserve, or scruples, on their part, have treated with contempt all the laws of property. In a word, it displays how they have been guilty of such excessive acts of violence, as could only proceed from an inordinate and insatiable avarice, or from an open state of war, in the annals of which it would be difficult to discover circumstances of so hostile and irregular a complexion. While your petitioners, most illustrious Sir, repeat to your Royal Highness, as to their sovereign, the protector of the property and the lord of the fortune of all your faithful subjects,

subjects, the very just complaints and reclamations they make against the above-stated facts, they apply on behalf of the sovereignty of your Royal Highness, which has been insulted; and in the name of the national dignity, which has been notoriously offended, and of the independence of the Portuguese trade, which has been almost reduced to the greatest misery. They spare, however, the tender heart of your Royal Highness a minute narration of the embarrassment and the destruction of the fortune of a great part of your subjects; and reserve, for another opportunity, to lay at the foot of the throne an authentic statement of the most enormous losses suffered by the merchants of this city, whose interests, from their intimate connection with those of the state, can put the public finances in danger.

Your petitioners, as they have the firmest confidence that the British government will hasten to give satisfaction to your Royal Highness, and to indemnify your petitioners for the losses and damages which they are certain to experience, and for the reparation and indemnity of which they will incessantly remonstrate, so they again pray, and have recourse to, your Royal Highness, that for the benefit of the stability of the national commerce, you will be graciously pleased to declare officially the true meaning of the spirit of the tenth article of the treaty of alliance and amity, in that part which relates to

the denomination of the *Costa da Mina*, or Gold Coast; and that your Royal Highness may also be graciously pleased to determine and fix the ports on that coast which are to serve as boundaries to the slave-trade; and that you will deign to regulate all the other particulars which are necessary for the prosecution of that trade, without their incurring the risk of being exposed to new insults and confiscations, under the pretext of the legality of the ports.

And your petitioners will ever pray.

A SHORT ACCOUNT

OF SOME ARBITRARY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST TWO PORTUGUESE MERCHANT-SHIPS AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

HAVING read in the Portuguese Investigator of last month the two Representations which the merchants of Bahia have presented to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal, concerning the oppressive conduct of some English naval officers, and of some of the subordinate courts of admiralty, towards several of their slave-trading vessels on the Gold Coast of Africa, I think it incumbent upon me, as a loyal Portuguese, to lay before a just and impartial public a few additional facts. The complaint I am going to state relates to the conduct of a few English naval officers at the Cape of Good Hope, and to that of the vice-court of admiralty of that settlement. I should, indeed, be disguising my feelings if I did not strongly protest against their proceedings, and stigmatize them as scandalous, subversive of the rights of property, and unworthy of individuals who have the happiness to belong to the English nation. Such conduct is, if

 possible,

possible, deserving of a still greater reprehension, as happening at a time that England and Portugal are making such noble and unprecedented efforts for the deliverance of Europe; and most ardently desire to consolidate, on a permanent basis, the alliance which has subsisted between the two countries almost ever since the accession of the illustrious House of Braganza *. It seems, however, as if there were some individuals who wished to undermine it by their indirect attempts, either that they may promote their West-Indian cultivation †, by depressing the prosperity of the Brazils, or as the agents of that revolutionary spirit, which, under the appearance of philosophy and humanity, has desolated Europe,

* The deliverance of Portugal under John IV. took place in 1640, and our connection with that country began not many years after, during Cromwell's usurpation, who concluded a treaty of commerce with it. The present alliance was afterwards fixed on the permanent basis of mutual interests by the celebrated Methuen treaty, in 1702.—*Translator.*

† The writer is mistaken in supposing that our West-Indian interest is jealous of the growing prosperity of the Brazils. It is also well known that it has never been hostile to the slave-trade; and that during the long parliamentary struggle for the abolition, it exerted itself to the utmost against that measure. It is therefore inconsistent to suppose that it would offer any annoyance to the trade of any foreign power, from whom it may still be indirectly supplied with slaves.—*Translator.*

rope, and even now wishes to extend its baleful influence to bathe the rest of the world in blood.

The following account contains a plain and accurate narrative of the dark transactions to which I have just alluded, and which took place at the Cape about the beginning of last year.

The ship *Restaurador*, the property of Custodio De Souza Guimaraens, an inhabitant of Rio Janeiro, and commanded by Captain Emmanuel Joseph Dias, put into the Cape on the 19th of January 1812, being then on its return from Mozambique, on the eastern coast of Africa. It had four hundred and fifty slaves on board, and was in a very distressed condition: it was dismasted, all its canvas gone, and in a leaky state; in addition to which, what remained of its provisions was damaged, in consequence of a tedious and stormy passage. The day after its arrival, and notwithstanding that it had been put under quarantine, it was visited by a naval officer belonging to the squadron on that station, which was then under the command of Admiral Stopford: this person took all the ship papers, and ordered the captain on shore in the ship's boat; and assigned as a reason for the detention of his vessel, that it was not Portuguese built.

A trial next followed, in which S. Warren, Esq. commander of the frigate President, belonging to the same squadron, figured as plaintiff; and on the 13th of February, G. Rekewick, Esq. the

judge of the vice-court of admiralty, having heard the King's proctor for the captain, promised to give his decision on the Saturday following. He was as good as his word, and decided the business on that day. He observed, that according to the tenth article of the treaty of alliance, the ship could not be condemned, as it had come from a Portuguese port; and that according to the fifth article of the treaty of commerce, it ought not to be condemned, because that article only disqualified Portuguese shipping from enjoying some particular privileges in English ports; but that, however, as it could not be known for certain, either from the depositions taken, or from the papers, where the ship had been built, he *pronounced its condemnation!* This manner of deciding bears a striking resemblance to the determination of the wolf against the lamb, in the fable, who, when he failed in arguments, had a ready expedient to succeed by violence. It threw some light on that absurd and cruel decision, when I read afterwards in the Admiral's official report, That the judge had decided in conformity to certain particular instructions sent from London about the end of 1811; and that they had been forwarded by a Mr. Barrow, who said in them, that it was indispensable that Portuguese ships should be Portuguese built, to entitle them to English protection. Hence, in this particular case, which admitted

mitted of no doubt about the Portuguese building of the vessel, the judge protected it much in the same way that the wolf did the lamb. Those instructions, the Admiral further observed, had been in consequence of a *resolution of the privy council,* that ships bearing the Portuguese flag, unless of the built of that nation, were not to be admitted in the English ports after July 1812. I do not recollect the date he gave to the order, and I have even some doubts about its existence. At any rate, one would suppose, that as the ship put into the Cape six months before that time, the most avaricious and the most unprincipled person could scarcely have had recourse to a similar pretext, without feeling a strong sense of horror and compunction.

It happened that the judge, his family, and other individuals, and indeed the whole colony, were then much in want of slaves. This circumstance had the effect of blinding those worthy personages to such a degree, that, among others, they landed a few of the unfortunate Blacks who were ill of the small-pox. It soon spread on shore, and *carried off one hundred and eighty persons.* All these, if human life is to be estimated according to the value of the services which it renders to society, were undoubtedly worth more than newly-purchased slaves.

The captain, who had every reason to be dissatisfied with these uncommon proceedings, ap-

pealed to a higher tribunal. If his papers have not yet arrived in this country, it is because the proctor objected to restore them, unless his expences were paid in current coin, while the captain could offer only part in money, and the other part in bills on Rio Janeiro, as might be expected. He was therefore obliged to go to law a second time, by sending the proctor an action; a circumstance which had probably been preconcerted among the parties, in the hope that his death, or some other unforeseen event, might happen to bury that dark transaction in oblivion. But no; the decision at the Cape shall not thus be laid to rest; it shall certainly be revised and rejudged in London, with that spirit of equity which seems to have sought refuge in the breasts of the English judges of the higher courts of admiralty, who well know that Neptune has not lent his trident to magnanimous Albion that it might commit depredations on the vessels of other nations, but to employ it for her own glory and defence.

The second instance of oppression is the following, which happened about the same time:— The Portuguese brig, Feliz Dia, had been built in the Brazils, was the property of Antonio Da Cruz e Almeida, an inhabitant of Mozambique, and Victorino Da Cruz e Almeida was its captain. It had sailed from that port with two hundred and fifty slaves, and having put into the Cape

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on the twenty-second of January 1812, it was immediately put under an embargo; the captain was deprived of all his papers, depositions were taken, and five days after he was cited to appear as a defendant into court. It is worthy of notice, that the citation was dated the twenty-second; so that seeing his vessel coming into harbour, and decreeing its confiscation, was but one and the same thing; the brig was also specified in the citation under a new name. In consequence of this, the captain, on making a minute inquiry into what kind of papers had been taken from his officers, discovered that the new name was that of a Spanish vessel, in which his pilot had made a voyage three years before, from Cadiz to Monte Video; and whose journal of that vessel's course had been taken on shore with the other papers. This was a blunder of so singular and unaccountable a nature, that it can be believed but with difficulty. Having thus seen into the real state of the matter, the captain presented a memorial to Admiral Stopford, shewing him that his ship was a Portuguese brig, coming from Mozambique; and that the name under which it had been attempted to make it pass was that of a Spanish vessel, which had made a voyage from Cadiz to Monte Video. The admiral, in consequence, ordered the embargo to be taken off, which (and who could believe it?) was not attended to before the captain had paid to the

King's

King's proctor five hundred rixdollars, and three hundred and fifty more to another proctor, because he had merely promised that he would employ him to defend his cause, if there should be any further proceedings. The meaning is, therefore, in plain words, that the captain was obliged to pay all that money to the vice-admiralty, either on account of its ignorance of the Portuguese language, without which it could not have made the gross blunder above mentioned, or as a bounty for its precipitate and arbitrary manner of acting.

Victorino Da Cruz e Almeida is in possession of the receipts of these two men, to vouch for their shameful imposition. They will also prove to demonstration how strict an attention the British nation ought to pay to the conduct and character of those individuals whom it appoints to decide matters that may arise between it and other nations. Nobody doubts, however, but that a virtuous and impartial English public discountenances, and turns with abhorrence from such instances of iniquity. But nobody doubts, at the same time, that neither the appointment, nor the continuance of the judge, and other officers of any court of admiralty, can take place in opposition to the united voice of the legislature and the public. Still it is to be feared, that this branch of administration has not always been sufficiently attended to, and that persons have occasionally

occasionally been appointed to high situations in the colonies whose characters could not have borne a rigorous scrutiny. Those situations ought to be bestowed upon men of talents and integrity, and not upon those of broken fortunes and mean capacities, and who, in their colonial jurisdiction, are guided by no other principles than those of their own interest.

Here, then, are two facts which fully substantiate the charge of an abuse of power against a few individuals belonging to the English navy, and against some of the courts of vice-admiralty in the colonies. If it were my wish to give more than a succinct narrative of those facts, I could easily increase it with a recital of the insults and the violence which were offered at the Cape to the masters and crews of those two vessels; but as I really believe that those were merely the acts of individuals, who had not the slightest national authority for them, I shall say no more on that subject; as I know, besides, that the English are men like others, with feelings to pity, and with spirit to resent the wrongs of their fellow-creatures. However, as this conduct of the navy and of the courts, is, in some measure, a national matter, I could wish to see it receive a proper animadversion. That will not be difficult to a people who are possessed of so many glorious and honourable qualities that they are become the boast and envy of the world.

Let

Let then an early restitution be made of whatever has been taken, and fresh orders be officially issued against the recurrence of such disagreeable transactions for the future. It is that which will allay the dissatisfaction which those unreasonable seizures have excited in the minds of the Brazilians. They are a people who most sincerely desire to increase the mutually-advantageous connection which unites the two nations, and which interested and unprincipled individuals ought not to be suffered to interrupt by their chicanery and extortion, under the mask of a mistaken philanthropy.

J. S. R.

London, May 18*th*, 1812.

AN ANALYSIS*

OF THE HISTORY OF THE AZORES, OR WESTERN ISLANDS; CONTAINING AN ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT, LAWS, AND RELIGION, THE MANNERS, CEREMONIES, AND CHARACTER OF THE INHABITANTS; AND DEMONSTRATING THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE VALUABLE ISLANDS TO THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

The title of this work was of a nature to excite our curiosity, and if we have not been gratified with the information which it has afforded, we have been more than satisfied with the rare spectacle of impudence which the author has exhibited. We have hesitated, for some time, whether we should give an account of a book of this kind, because we have found little in it that can be interesting to our readers. As to the mere purpose of proving the daily perversion of the liberty of the press, of which we are eye-witnesses, it seems as if we had already said enough on that subject in our former numbers. The opinion which

* The reader will find the original in the twenty-second number of the Portuguese Investigator, from page 164 to 180.

which we delivered in our tenth number, page 316, appears to receive daily a stronger confirmation from additional facts. It will be recollected that we said there " that we were as far from criticising the doctrine prevalent in this country, as from believing that it could exist in any part of the Continent, without an immediate danger of the total subversion of the government; and that, perhaps, it could not ever exist here, if there should be any other country equally well governed and equally powerful, but whose interests were opposite, and which admitted the liberty of the press to the same extent."

But who would imagine that an English subject would have chosen a period not only of the most profound peace, but of the strictest and the most intimate alliance that has ever existed between England and Portugal, to advise the government of his country *to snatch* the Western Islands from the Portuguese? Let not, however, the author be offended with the coarseness of our expression; for we shall be able easily to prove, that as the English government cannot give an adequate consideration for such a purchase, so is it obvious that he can only reckon on indirect and odious means, to expect that the Portuguese could be inveigled into such a disgraceful contract, or suffer such an enormous injury. Nevertheless, we have at last resolved to give an account of that indecorous work to our readers,

readers, since we have seen that it has not escaped the sagacity of our great statesman, the Brazilian Courier, who is shortsighted only with respect to those works which might be of any utility to the Portuguese.

He has had the rare satisfaction of translating in Portuguese, in the fifty-seventh number of his Courier, the passages of that work which are the most hateful to his countrymen, and which appeared to him as the most likely to irritate their minds against their own government, and the English nation. He has done that too at a moment that it strikes the eyes even of the most uninformed, that the things which are indispensably necessary to all the Portuguese are, 1st, The most cordial affection between the subject and his sovereign; and 2dly, The most intimate connection with the English. But the wonder of those who have had the delightful task of reading the Brazilian Courier, and the work in question, will soon cease at the circumstance of the former having translated parts of the latter, when they perceive the affinity of the principles of the two grave authors. The Brazilian Courier says—" We omit speaking, in this analysis of the work, of the information which the author affords, concerning the agriculture, trade, warm-baths, navigation, and other matters relating to those islands, &c.;" we had already guessed that he would do so; for it is indeed a fact, that

that he cares nothing about what might be useful, and that he only wishes, as he says further on, to call the attention of the reader to the political part, which, according to him, it was the principal object of the author to discuss; and it was therefore from him that one might expect that he would pick out what suited his own particular views. Our arch politician seems to be fit to be compared to Father Mallebranche, of whom it was said, "that he who could see all in God, could not see there that he was himself a fool." And this is also the case of our Brazilian. Whatever subject he may choose for his lucubrations, for the sake of variety, whether they be Godoyanos * or satraps, military government or monopolies, despotism or liberty of the press, &c. &c. &c. it is still possible to read, through the thin transparency of his arguments, at the bottom of the vessel—General Miranda and the revolution of the Caraccas. From all this, it is scarcely too uncharitable to suppose, that his ruling idea is that of substituting anarchy to monarchy. If he takes up a book, and finds there

* From Godoy, the Prince of the Peace, the favourite and minister of Charles IV. of Spain; one of the basest and most wicked beings that ever abused the confidence of his sovereign, and oppressed the people. His name is already a term of reproach, and may become so in other languages hereafter, to denote any man who is superlatively infamous. —*Translator.*

there matter to make a rhapsody on his well-known subjects, the book is then good; if not, he throws it aside; and yet he sees not, that when a ruling idea comes to exclude all others, that it is a *fixation*, or absorption of mind, which is the first degree of madness, and also its characteristic symptom when the complaint is fully confirmed.

This doctrine is so familiar to any one who, like us, has studied the nature of human diseases, that we begin to be seriously uneasy about the mental health of our dear pseudo-Brazilian; and indeed we think that he would do well to call in a consultation of physicians. As for ourselves, if we should be called, (that is, if he should have any confidence in the studies which we formerly prosecuted at Coimbra, and which we still continue in England,) we would not fail to attend, and that, too, without a fee, only for the pleasure of getting near enough to him to feel his pulse.

In the mean time, we advise his nurses not to leave him night or day, and to observe all his motions, actions, or discourses, and make an exact report to the attending physicians of their observations during the twenty-four hours. That they may have something to go by, we point out, in the four following rules, the symptoms to which they are to direct their attention:—

His judgment deluded by night with foul dreams,
And hurried by day with the thoughts of vain schemes,
In all that he said, and in all that he felt,
His wild recollections on anarchy dwelt.*

In the short analysis which we find ourselves under the necessity of giving of that truly libellous history, we shall follow a different method from that adopted by our Brazilian countryman, that worthy modern descendant of the ancient Herostratus. In the first place, we shall show that the plan of the author is as absurd as it is hateful; and in the next, we shall inquire whether the work, which in other respects is very meagre of information, can be of any utility to Portuguese readers?

We undertake the first part less because we deem it necessary to establish what is already evident enough, than to clear up some impudent assertions upon which he founds himself, to give an

* This is a slight parody of four celebrated lines of Camoens, in his episode of Donna Inez de Castro, the most beautiful and the most affecting in all the Lusiad. If ever the poetry of any man exhibited the picture of his life, it was that of Camoens, who was equally distinguished for his genius, his misfortunes, and his patriotism. He is the first poet of his country, and indeed he may rank among the most illustrious either of ancient or modern times. See Mr. Mickle's translation of the Lusiad, and Lord Strangford's of his Lyric Poems.—*Translator.*

an air of plausibility to the infamous measure which he proposes.

The first observation which occurs to us, and which we mostly desire to inculcate upon the minds of our readers, is the same that we made to the editor or editors of the Quarterly Review, on reading the account it gave of Mr. Mawe's Travels in the Interior of Brazil. We shall transcribe it here from our sixteenth number, page 587.

"It is thus, as we said, that while Great Britain sheds her blood and exhausts her treasure to oppose a barrier to the revolutionary torrent which has filled Europe and the whole world with mourning and grief, her writers avail themselves of the liberty of the press (a liberty useful, indeed, in the hands of an honest man, but almost always dangerous, prejudicial, and fatal, in the hands of rash, revolutionary, or perverse writers) to disseminate their own revolutionary principles. It is thus, that after Great Britain had been left alone in the field, and excluded from all the ports of the Continent, it was only among the Peninsular nations that she found assistance to bear this contest, and to support this tremendous struggle, by sharing with them her valour and her treasures; and that she has thus freed herself from all anxiety about a foreign revolutionary visit, and from equally formidable internal commotions at home; and thence is it

not absurd and wicked in her journalists to imagine, that when the two Peninsular nations shall awake from their dream of military prowess, they will congratulate themselves much on finding themselves without the French, and also without every thing they possessed out of the seat of war? And is it either to be imagined that a particularly enlightened ministry, as that of Great Britain must necessarily be, would have so little foresight, as, after having incurred such expences, and made such exertions to render the Peninsula warlike, even to the very last man, and after the whole of it had become disciplined and military, to ask from it, for a reward, the total loss of its own colonies?"

We flatter ourselves, however, that our readers will be persuaded that not only the British government, but all sensible Englishmen, look, and must ever look, on those unworthy productions of the press, and on the Brazilian Courier, which has the effrontery to praise them, with the same disgust and contempt which we, as Portuguese, experience.

These half literary men, who are thus always ready to abuse the facility they possess of publishing their own ideas, do a great deal of harm to both nations at the same time, and introduce a kind of scepticism in several weak minds, who would otherwise be well inclined to favour the progress of arts and sciences. When

these

these latter see this unbridled licentiousness, they feel hesitation to decide which is the worse of the two opposite systems—the restriction or the liberty of the press. Hence their zeal is cooled with their difficulty of discovering that well-regulated medium which facilitates the productions of honourable talents, and which restrains the mischief of such writers as the one whom it is our misfortune to analyze.

It is evident that Captain T. A. of the light dragoons is perfectly imbued with all the maxims of the French revolution, otherwise he would not have had the audacity to have said, page 17—"I do not invite the people of the Azores to rebel against their lawful sovereign; I do not tempt the English government to violate their faith with the House of Braganza, and to assume an authority which is now inefficient and nugatory in that House; all I propose is, to purchase freedom and happiness for the islands, in exchange for the blood and treasure which England has expended in the Braganza cause."

This kind of generosity is of the same nature as that of which the French ambassadors and generals made a display of to some of the petty princes of the Continent, while they were not yet fully resolved to let them swallow up their dominions.

"We could," said they, "conquer you by force—we would even revolutionize you, since

we are in secret intelligence with all the disaffected among your subjects; but we are so generous, that we shall not take advantage of those means, provided that you give up to us, for the present, only this or that place or province, &c. &c."

This Captain T. A. of the light dragoons would wish to treat our Sovereign and the Portuguese exactly after the manner that we describe. "If," says he, "his Highness will relinquish the Madeiras, with the Azores, we may then with propriety surrender all claim to the great debt which he owes to the British government, for his removal to, and final settlement in, his American empire."

We know not if Mr. T. A. has travelled enough in Portugal to enable him to say at page 219— "The bad atmosphere of a great portion of Portugal enervates the mind as well as the body, and dissipates that fire of imagination necessary for invention. In Portugal, therefore, they are not capable of that tedious study and intense application which produce the works of art, both literal and mechanical. It is only in healthy climates that we are to expect arts and handicrafts in the highest perfection."

Perhaps the author would have been more serviceable to his king and country, if, instead of travelling through the Western Islands, he had contributed, if we may be allowed the expression, but one particle of blood and treasure to

that

that expended in the Peninsula; and there he would have had an opportunity of seeing (and be that said without any disparagement to the tried heroism of the British armies)—of seeing, we repeat it, that if it had not been for those men, whose bodies and minds are enervated by the badness of their climate, the cause of the Peninsula would have been lost long ago, and the English armies must have returned home, without having accomplished any of the objects of their expedition.

Captain T. A. must reckon a great deal on the thickness of their atmosphere, to suppose that the Portuguese are so dull, that, in spite of their hearing and reading daily in the speeches of the principal statesmen, and in the parliamentary debates, that the war in the Peninsula is unavoidable, and indispensable for the security of the British empire, they are still to be convinced by him that the present and former mighty efforts of the English government for the Portuguese have only been made for the attainment of useless or insignificant objects.

But Captain T. A. will say, who is to pay us the great debt, &c. &c. &c.?

If his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal, our Lord, made every possible sacrifice to avoid the entrance of General Junot in Portugal, it was that he might preserve his loyal subjects from that scourge; but he had need

only of that friendship which was due to him by Great Britain to emigrate to the Brazils with ten ships of the line of his own, and to establish himself in a vast country, which was, which is, and which shall ever be, his entire property. If the friendship of Great Britain added four men of war to his ten Portuguese, it was because the British ministry has more generosity and sagacity than Captain T. A.; and that the courtesy done to a sovereign, who was going to open to her the trade and navigation of the Brazilian ports, did not appear to her to be so much expence thrown away as is the opinion of the same Captain T. A.

Having been, however, surprised and astonished with the preposterousness of our author's assertion, we endeavoured to find out what was that immense debt which our government had contracted, from which it would not be able to extricate itself without making an alienation of almost four hundred thousand of our brethren, and without incurring the loss of such fine possessions as the Madeiras and the Western Islands, and above all, without sacrificing the first fruit of the glorious discoveries of our ancestors, whose merits are unrivalled in universal history. We were well aware of what the author wished to say; but we have had the satisfaction of ascertaining the point, and our readers may reckon on the accuracy of our following statement,

statement, since we have had it from persons who know the truth of the matter, and who were therefore able to inform us with certainty. It was through that channel that we came to know that our government has not any debt standing out against it in foreign countries, except two, or rather the remains of two, and which, thank God, are very trifling, when compared with our resources.

The first, or the remainder of the first, is the loan made by the houses of Hope and Baring, in 1802, the annual instalments on which were regularly paid by the treasury of Lisbon, till the period of our catastrophe in 1807, without which, the principal and interest would have been liquidated by the end of 1812. After the Portuguese restoration, in 1808, when his Royal Highness could not oblige the treasury of Lisbon to continue its former instalments, he was so just and generous, that he consigned the diamonds to the houses of Hope and Baring, which are annually and regularly remitted to them, and with the produce of which the rest of the debt will be paid off in the course or five or six years.

The second is that which is commonly known in England by the name of the Brazilian loan, because it was contracted for in 1809. This is our only actual debt to the British government; but it is for the comparatively insignificant sum of £. 600,000,

£. 600,000; and exclusive of the interest, as there is a regular yearly five per cent. on £. 30,000, towards a sinking fund for its liquidation, the whole will be paid off, principal and interest, in nine or ten years' time. The funds applied towards the repayment of it are those which are received by the board of the royal contracts in London, which consist of part of the revenues of the Madeiras and the Western Islands, and of some royal contracts, as of that of Brazil-wood, orchilla-weed, &c.

It is indeed plain that the author makes Portugal a debtor to Great Britain for the mighty efforts which this latter power has made in the cause of the Peninsula. But here he ought, at least, to have had the justice to charge the Spaniards with part of the debt, and we will venture to say, even with the larger part. In the two first years of the contest, 1808 and 1809, Great Britain seemed to exert herself more for them than for Portugal, a circumstance for which we have to thank some writers, like the present one, who, with their abuse, assured the country that it ought not to reckon on the Portuguese soldiers; and hence it was that the organization of the Portuguese army only began in 1809, with the arrival of his excellency Marshal Beresford.

Even the first expedition of Sir Arthur Wellesley was sent to Corunna; and it was through the advice of the junta of Gallicia, that the English

lish troops disembarked in Portugal. To be convinced of this, there is only need to read the first official dispatches of that great general, and the printed instructions given by the English ministry.

That country was liberated by the bravery of Lord Wellington, but without any arms or army of its own; and in 1809, Great Britain still reckoned on the Spaniards alone; and relying on their assistance, and in their company, the English army went to give the enemy battle at Talavera.

It is from the experience of that day forwards, that we can calculate the efforts of Great Britain, as directed, in great part, in favour of Portugal, either for her own convenience, or for that of both.

It was from that period, that, by combining the example of Talavera with that of Sir John Moore, Great Britain began to see clearly that once for all she could neither place any reliance on the Spanish armies, nor improve them in discipline. In that exigency she had no other resource than to avail herself of the Portuguese, who requested the same thing which the Spaniards declined, namely, officers to discipline their troops, with whom they might be able to form a sufficient army to make head against the French at some point of the Peninsula; and, by obliging them to concentrate themselves, give

some

some room for the efforts of the Spanish disciplined armies and the guerillas.

It was then that Great Britain saw that she was unable to do any thing of the kind alone—that scarcely had her army entered alone in Spain, than it was immediately compelled to retreat; and that it was better to retire upon an armed and friendly country than upon a country without defence, as Gallicia and Portugal were in 1808, and part of 1809. Yet let not disaffected people, whether they call themselves English, French, Spaniards, or Portuguese, think that they can draw any thing from the above argument prejudicial to the alliance between Portugal and England. It is, indeed, on the contrary, the strongest that can be offered in favour of its necessity and utility; for no alliance could be solid if it were advantageous only to one of the two nations. Its intrinsic merit principally consists in that neither party can do any thing for itself alone, without the other participating in its beneficial effects. Those men appear to me to be equally Jacobins, taking the word in its modern revolutionary sense, who inspire the English with contempt for the alliance of the Portuguese, as those who instil, in these latter, a disgust of English cooperation. The one and the other have the same object in view, which is, to divide and destroy that connection, which

the French neither know how, nor are able to resist; and in the same sense, all those writers in newspapers and pamphlets were Jacobins, and they, too, the most pernicious, whose abuse, for two years, prevented Great Britain from knowing the real value of the military excellence of the Portuguese; and for that space of time, retarded the establishment of a plan which has changed the face of Europe, and has been preparatory to the victorious resistance of the Russians.

These principles, well understood, are of sufficient weight to reduce, to its proper standard, the pretended debt which the author considers Portugal as owing to Great Britain for the blood and treasure expended in its defence. The enlightened administration of Great Britain knows her interests better than the writers of libels. She declined engaging, by any treaty, with Portugal, for the payment of her subsidies. Having determined to make that country the principal instrument in this awful struggle, she did not come to the determination of forming the Portuguese army; but when she saw that it was necessary to the attainment of her views, she gave arms and subsidies to it, after she had been convinced that it would be for her own advantage. On the other hand, the Portuguese ought to feel that they had neither arms, money, nor horses, nor perhaps officers, in their monarchy, to form such a bril-

a brilliant army as they have formed. They ought to feel that there is no other part of the world, not even in the United States of America, where they could have procured themselves those indispensable necessaries for the attainment of their object, which was their liberation from the French. Hence the reciprocity of interest and advantage is alike on both sides.

But as these arguments, however evident they may be, will not, perhaps, satisfy the author, we are going to supply him with facts, which will tranquillize his mind, and prove to him, that even in a pecuniary point of view, Great Britain has lost nothing in this twofold contract; and he will have one reason more to be persuaded that the British ministry understand the true interests of their country better than he does.

We could wish that the individuals of the two nations would discuss any subject with the same liberality that the two governments have done; because there cannot be a more ridiculous and wretched way of disputing than that of upbraiding each other openly with mutual benefits.

The two nations of the Peninsula may very well deny the pecuniary debt, notwithstanding that they cannot, on that account, dispense with the moral obligation of an eternal gratitude. If they take a review of the conduct of the continental powers, they will find that it

is no small honour for the ministry of Great Britain that its deliberations of state appear to be acts of generosity. Let them reflect on what Austria and Prussia have suffered, as if it had been the just chastisement of Heaven, the former for having wished to swallow up Piedmont, and the latter for her having attempted to usurp Hanover. Russia, who is now triumphant, and contented with seizing on Finland, (and God knows by what means,) suffered herself to be led to the brink of destruction from her reluctance to restore Moldavia and Wallachia. In short, let Spain herself recollect, that even before the return of our troops from Roussillon, where they had gone to her assistance, she was already leagued with the French against us. Let us not speak of the modern government of France; we have had enough of it at home to form a right estimation of its conduct.

To connect, therefore, the acts of government with those of generosity, in such a manner that it may be difficult to separate them from each other, is no small praise for a ministry who is daily obliged to give an account to parliament whether all that it does is for the advantage of the English nation.

The first benefit which it has derived from the resistance of the Peninsula is its own internal repose; and if it were possible to arrange a scale of value for things of very different natures, such,

for

for instance, as of political operations, and of expences, it would be found, that there could not be any *item* in the second column sufficiently to set against the eternal repose of Great Britain.

On the twenty-ninth of November, 1807, when his Royal Highness set sail for the Brazils, the whole of Europe lay at the feet of Buonaparte; and the fear of invasion, which in 1803 and 1804 had thrown England into consternation, threatened to be renewed with the return of the French army to the coasts of Normandy. Nor let our author say that it is to her army and navy that Great Britain is indebted for her repose and security. The English navy will ever possess, in the opinion of posterity, a great part of the merit of having saved Europe, and the whole world, from having fallen into a profound barbarism. However, that navy was as brilliant in 1803 and 1804 as it is now; notwithstanding which, Great Britain did not fail to undergo the greatest apprehensions, till her confidence was restored by the patriotism of her innumerable volunteers. In a country which is essentially commercial, and which stands so much in need of its mercantile credit, a small debarkation, either in England or Ireland, has been enough to occasion an universal panic. The squadrons of General Hoche, and of General Humbert, and some others, are yet within the recollection of most people.

However,

However, we perceive that neither this sketch, nor our arguments, will satisfy Captain T. A. event hough we may prove to him, that the departure of his Royal Highness for the Brazils was an electrical shock for the Peninsula; that the resistance of the Spaniards communicated itself to the Portuguese, who have always been possessed of a gallant spirit in warlike matters; and that the heroism and the sacrifices of the Portuguese army and people have destroyed the charm of the invincibility of the French, and encouraged the Russians to know their own strength; so that the salvation which Europe, at the present moment, expects at the hands of the Russians, owes its origin to the emigration of the Prince Regent of Portugal to the Brazils; and yet, notwithstanding this great, and never-to-be-requited obligation, we are apprehensive that Captain T. A. will not be convinced by any thing but financial calculations—but here they are.

It is with reluctance that we enter upon such a discussion. If, however, one enemy of the two governments provokes it, and another has raised his book from the dust and contempt in which it ought to have remained buried, we shall undertake the task. Whatever may be the disguise or the colour in which those revolutionists appear, or to whatever nation they may belong, we shall treat them all with the same indiscriminate impartiality.

If Mr. T. A. has any notion of the settling of accounts, he ought to begin by arranging the different items of expence, and authenticating them by proper vouchers; and then he must admit that he ought to deduct from the expence and from the large debt charged to the account of the Peninsula, all that part of the expenditure which Great Britain would incur if that Peninsula had submitted to a French usurpation. The admission of this principle immediately causes the whole charge of the naval item to vanish; because the men of war which are now in Lisbon and Cadiz, and even more than those, were formerly employed in the blockade of those ports. As much may also be said about the naval forces cruising in the Mediterranean and on the coast of Sicily, and of the Bay of Biscay, and in other places.

On the other hand, foreigners remark that Great Britain, instead of making any retrenchments, increases her naval establishment in proportion as hostile fleets disappear. If there were now a French and Spanish combined fleet, as in 1779, and if there were an armed neutrality of Russians, Swedes, and Danes, Great Britain would scarcely maintain, as in the present year, 140,000 sailors, and 32,000 marines. But it is not the business of foreigners to interfere in such matters of state.

Captain T. A. ought to deduct, in the first place,

place, from the land forces, the pay and the subsistence which they would cost in the United Kingdom; and as to transports and extraordinaries, he will find it difficult to settle a convenient deduction. For if the plan which Lord Grenville recommended to be substituted were to be adopted—to sail along the coast of the Peninsula with a floating army, that would appear here and there, land, attack, and reimbark, he must own, likewise, that there would be a great loss of men, of ammunition, in short, of necessaries of every kind. Besides, if he were to look back at the method constantly practised in the late and in the present wars, during the intervals of the coalitions, he ought to deduct as well the amount of the annual expeditions, both of those which were successful and of those which were not; and he must very well know that some of the last of them occasioned a very large expenditure. We do not point them out, because they are still fresh in the recollection of every one.

We are not aware that Captain T. A. will be better qualified than we are to make those deductions. Lord Castlereagh, last year, in answer to a charge brought against the ministers by the Marquis Wellesley, that they had not made all the efforts they could in favour of the Peninsula, and that that had been the reason of his retiring from office, said, that he could, on a rough estimate, set down the total of the efforts of

Great Britain, in the Peninsula war, at twenty millions sterling. In one sense, what lord Castlereagh said was perfectly right ; because the French are obliged oppose to all the force that is put in motion by that expenditure. It is, in fact, the merit, and not the defect, of the plan which has been followed in respect to the Peninsula, if it combines, in one single point, the greater part of the insulated expences which Great Britain incurred against France without any additional advantage. In 1809 she employed 100,000 men in Sicily, Holland, and Spain ; but who will not perceive that if it were possible that all this force could have acted against France, at one point only, it would have caused her a great deal more embarrassment ?

Those deductions would have puzzled still more Captain T. A. if he had heard how the Marquis Wellesley said, a few days ago, in parliament, that the difference of maintaining 15,000 infantry in England, or in the Peninsula, would be, at the utmost, five or six hundred thousand pounds, or from thirty-three to forty pounds a man.

The cavalry, the artillery, and the war extraordinaries, would have cost much more ; however, we do not wish to make calculations on conjecture, especially as we know that the strength of those three branches has varied much in quantity during the last five years. Let us, however,

ever, assume, on a rough computation, that the expenditure of the war in the Peninsula, or the bills on the British treasury, or its own remittances thither, amount, annually, from ten to twelve millions sterling, inclusive of the subsidies in specie, and in goods delivered at Lisbon or Cadiz. We may give this maximum of twelve millions as a thing concerning which we cannot speak with perfect accuracy. With what part, therefore, of this expenditure would Captain T. A. wish that the Portuguese should be encumbered? and what part would belong to the Spaniards?

If the encumbrance were to be divided in proportion to the surface of the Peninsula, scarcely one fifth of it would affect the Portuguese; and if in proportion to the population, it would be about two-sevenths. But let us take the medium of those two proportions, which is one-fourth more or less, and then the annual debt of the Portuguese will be three millions, and that of the Spaniards nine.

Let him, therefore, now make the deductions which we have pointed out to him above, and let him tell us to what sum they reduce this large debt. Let him be well aware, besides, that here we merely to suppose, for the sake of argument, that the English nation has gained nothing by that expenditure, neither with respect to its internal tranquillity, nor for the annoyance of the enemy, nor for its navigation and commerce.

But how will our captain of dragoons, T. A.

get rid of his difficulties, when we shall prove to him that the exports of Great Britain to Portugal, before 1807, were estimated by English writers from £. 800,000 to a million sterling; with the exception of some contraband, the English trade and navigation to the Brazils was nothing; and that since 1807, the exports of Great Britain to the Brazils amount annually, on an average, to three millions and a half, either more or less, exclusive of three-fourths of the mercantile navigation, which was formerly entirely confined to Portuguese vessels.

If we should calculate only the profit of the freights and insurances, we should not be much mistaken in supposing, that in the actual state of things, and without looking forwards to the increase of the Brazilian trade to Great Britain, that particular gain alone had exceeded two millions a-year—a gain, indeed, for which there was formerly no equivalent. Great Britain was not possessed of any part of that trade before 1808. If the same calamity had fallen on Portugal as has done on Spain, that General La Borde would be viceroy of Rio Janeiro, and General Loison of Bahia, this captain of dragoons, T. A. would own that Great Britain would not have been indemnified with the usurpation of Madeira and the Western Islands. Under that melancholy supposition, the continental system would have been completely realized; and the English people would

would not cease from their clamours for peace—those clamours which did immediately cease on the opening of the ports of the Brazils. At that period, the trade to Portugal was reduced to nothing; and the revenue which the British government raises from its duties on the wines of Portugal, which in some years have amounted to two millions and a half, was going to be annihilated, according to the caprice of the French, if they could have realized their much-talked-of design of pulling up the vineyards of the district of Oporto; so that, as the English could not do without wine, they would necessarily have been obliged to purchase it their implacable enemy.

Instead of this dark picture, the worthy captain of dragoons, T. A. may now see that which we have substituted to it. The British export trade to Portugal, which ceased, or was totally lost during 1808, and which, before 1807, might scarcely have come up to £. 900,000, or a million sterling, as soon as the restoration of the latter country assumed a more settled form, continued increasing as follows:—

In 1809 to more than £. 1,000,000
In 1810 to more than....2,200,000
In 1811 to more than....6,000,000

Because Portugal being free, it not only consumed for itself, but was also the vehicle for the

consumption of a great part of Spain; and it is here very proper to be remarked, that these exports to Portugal do not contain that of cod-fish from Newfoundland, nor the supplies it received from Ireland, from which latter country the exports likewise went on proportionally increasing in the following manner:—

In 1809 to about	£. 200,000
In 1810 to more than	400,000
In 1811 to about	1,300,000

On making a recapitulation, Captain T. A. can make the following calculation:—

1. The new trade to the Brazils, and the new gain to Great Britain, in produce, on an average of three years, annually.....	£. 3,500,000
2. The advantage of the new shipping employed, estimated at present to at least	1,500,000
3. The new trade to Portugal...	6,200,000
4. The old shipping to Portugal	1,000,000
Total of the new trade gained by Great Britain*.	£. 12,200,000

From

* We place to the credit of the new system, the old shipping employed in the Portugal trade, which would be lost if

From this total he may deduct:—

1. The contraband to Portugal and the Brazils ..... £. 2,000,000
2. Whatever he may think to be the consumption of the English army .....For his recollection
3. The supposed debt of..... £. 3,000,000

Hence

if Portugal and the Brazils were French; and in the estimate, we have not taken into the account the temporary excess of the goods which now pass through Portugal into Spain. The estimate is not exaggerated, even in the doubled limits which we assign it. However, we deem it necessary to obviate and refute, beforehand, the advantage which the French party wish to take of that circumstance to the disparagement of the English alliance, by imputing to it the loss of our merchant shipping. If it has been the constant tendency of the English laws, for more than a century and a half past, to favour their own navigation, they have done no more than their duty; but it has not been the English who have taken from us almost the whole of our carrying-trade to the Mediterranean, France, Holland, Hamburgh, and the Baltic. Certainly the English have made no exertions, that the French, Danes, and Ragusans, might appropriate to themselves all our European carrying-trade. We shall say more. With respect to these last, our ability cuts a more indifferent figure than with respect to the English. These availed themselves of our carelessness for making all the mutual imports and exports between Portugal and England in their own bottoms; but the Swedes, Danes, and Ragusans, had nothing to do with the exportation of the produce of the Brazils to the Mediterranean, and to Germany, of which they

Hence he will find, that the system which is actually followed by the enlightened government of Great Britain, will produce her a balance of gain and profit of at least six or seven millions sterling, the whole of which would never have existed, if the Brazils and the Peninsula had been in an absolute state of blockade; and if, after having been convinced as to the pecuniary gain, he will turn to the consideration of the waste of blood and the loss of men, we, for our part, without making an ostentation to him of our loss, which was ten times greater, or even a great deal more than that, by the invasion of Massena, will silence him with only one assertion, which is, that the annual increase of o many hundred ships, which both now and hereafter will trade to the Brazils, will be productive of a greater number of men for England than of those whom it loses once for all in the Peninsula.

It seems to us thus far, that after a thorough examination of the accounts, the great debt existing is that which not only Great Britain, but Europe and the whole world, owe to the magnanimous resolution of his Royal Highness the Prince

they have entirely deprived us. Let us cease from attacking the branch, without cutting the root; and let us know the disease, and where it is, and then apply a remedy to it. This will be the subject of an article in our Journal, as soon as we shall have an opportunity.—*Portuguese Investigator.*

Prince Regent in 1807, and to the determined valour, the heroic endurance, and the unshaken loyalty, which the Portuguese displayed, while all the other nations of the Continent did not even dare to look at the French in the face!

By Tagus' flood, each loyal heart
In thy decision took a part,
And sympathiz'd with thee;
When, from the dreadful struggle, fate
Prepar'd the world its lasting state
Of future destiny.

The end of hope, the end of fear,
Oppression's triumph now was near,
Or Freedom must give law;
The good, the virtuous, and the wise,
Still fix'd on thee their anxious eyes,
With dumb and trembling awe.*

* The emigration of the house of Braganza is one of the most remarkable events of modern history. There was something extremely bold and noble in the execution of so magnificent a plan; something that must have raised the sympathy and warmed the heart of every man who was not dead to the calls of liberty and patriotism; and something that must have been poured out in prayers to Heaven for the safety of the royal exiles in the other hemisphere, to which they preferred a removal to crouching before tyranny and usurpation at home. I offer some Latin verses here, never before published, and which were written on that inspiring subject, soon after that memorable event:—

BRASILIÆ PRINCEPS.

Aspice! Libertas Europæ cedit ab oris,
Et regnatores regnaque avita cedunt.
Jamque minis circum Gallus pugnacibus instat,
Successuque ferox omnia Napus habet.

Ast

Ast invicta manet, tantoque Britannia fluctu,
Eminet ea undis Insula læta caput.
Corsiganum ridet, nulli cessura tyranno;
Illius haud acies insidiasve timet.
At juvat interea sanctis me vivere thuris,
Mœstaque Romanæ fila movere lyræ.
Heu! quoties dolui, sortem miseratus eorum,
Quos hostile nefas dira per arma premit.
Heu! quoties belli finem requiemque malorum
Assuevi trepida poscere voce Deum!
Heu! quoties prisca sub libertate tueri
Optavi populos pace perenne frui!
Sed jam forsan erit meliùs: dum carmina condo,
Nescio quid solito lætius omen adest.
Nam juvat ingentes inter spectare tumultus,
Inter tot reges degeneresque duces;
Si quis confisusque Deo ac melioribus ausit,
Noluerit turpi colla dedisse jugo.
Lætius omen adest, dum solor inertia vitæ
Otia, Pierios doctus adire choros.
Unus erit timidis qui tot de regibus heros,
Audebit patriam non temerare fidem.
Namque Bracantiades laudis documenta vetustæ,
Exilio major, tempus in omne dabit.
Indignatus enim Corso servire tyranno,
Magnanimus Princeps Lusia regna fugit.
Lusia regna fugit, Joni * haud indigna propago,
Et pandunt vastam per mare vela rates.
Extra anni solisque vias clarissimus heros,
Imperii sedem nobile littus adit:
Brasiliæ patriâ profugus positurus in oris,
Lusiadum nomen, Lusiadumque domos.
At patria est, ubicunque bene est;—ibi summa bonorum,
Immunes foedi quo licet esse jugi.

10 *Cal. Jan.* 1808.

* Johannes IV. Dux Bracantiæ et Lusitaniæ Instaurator, A. D. 1640.

CONTINUATION

CONTINUATION OF THE ANALYSIS, &c.*

In our ast number, we ascertained the true state of the account concerning the large debt which the captain of dragoons, T. A. gratuitously supposed that Portugal owed to Great Britain. We also demonstrated to him, that the enormous expenditure which this country has made in the war of the Peninsula was not only for British objects of the highest importance, but that exclusive of them, it was interested in a pecuniary point of view, by its having an annual balance of six or seven millions sterling in its favour. We did not comprehend in that calculation the advantages which it has acquired by the treaty of commerce concluded between the British and Brazilian governments, because there are some things in it which are still a matter of negociation between the two countries. But we think that Captain T. A. will be convinced by the facts that we have stated, that the Portuguese government, notwithstanding the honourable names which he confers upon it, of abject, tyrannical, despicable, superstitious, ignorant, and degrading, is not likely to fall into the ignominy

* This Continuation is in the original Portuguese of the twenty-third number of the Investigator, from page 312 to 318.

miny of making an alienation of its own subjects, for the liquidation of a debt, which, under the operation and undeniable security of a sinking fund, can leave no room for the least apprehension about its speedy extinction. No Portuguese subjects either are, or ever were, slaves under the sway of their government, though the author has the impudence to make such an assertion. We therefore look upon the odious suggestions of the author as useless, which could not have been even hinted at by the most refined usury of a pawnbroker; and hence we take his fine theory about the appropriation of the islands to have been but a dream.

But what is not a dream, but a most melancholy reality, is the rancour and bitterness which he excites in the minds of the Portuguese, when he represents them as vile slaves, who, through their own corruption of manners, the unhealthiness of their native climate, and the wretchedness of their physical and intellectual faculties, are become the most indolent and degenerate race upon the face of the earth. In speaking of the excellence of the Azores, he does not give his opinion of them on account of their geographical situation, nor of the goodness of their climate, but because of their political degeneracy.

"The Portuguese government," says he, "under the direction of its impolitic cabinet, turned the Azores into a headless and a heartless trunk;

annihilated

annihilated the rights of the inhabitants, withered their capacities and their prospects, and granted them, in return, the indigent blessings of their sovereignty, and protection." Decency, and the respect that we have for our sovereign, require that we should not transcribe here the insulting expressions with which the captain of dragoons, T. A. attacks the Portuguese government. He concludes, however, with saying, that the existence of the Azores has been, for a long and gloomy period, confined to hollow sound in a pompous title; and that it is now necessary to draw them out of obscurity. (Thus far we are obliged to his diligent researches.) But he adds, that as to himself, nature, habit, education, virtuous pride, honourable ambition, all concur to make him detest this miserable state of political degradation, and to urge the honour and propriety of making the islands free and independent, and of placing them under the protecting shield of the British government. (Then long live such modern philanthropy!)

Behold then here the great object for which the captain of dragoons, T. A. wrote that violent rhapsody against the Portuguese government and nation! Behold the manner, which, as we have said before, has been adopted by revolutionary agents, when they wished to give out some pretence for their iniquitous aggressions!

What

What an ingenious way to make one's self master of the possessions of others, by previously degrading governments, and abusing their people! But an act of this kind, taken in whatever point of view, is so odious and revolting, that it would draw down on any government that supported it the execration of mankind. In fact, to counsel any government whatever, and especially a government so illustrious and so just as the British, to dismember the dominions of its intimate ally, under the pretence that they were not well governed, is an attack on the part of the counsellor not only of the most refined malignity, but even a proof of the contempt in which he holds his own government, whom he supposes to be capable of so much baseness. We could wish to inquire of Captain T. A. on what ground, that had any appearance either of justice or policy, he would have his government to begin such an undertaking? Let us grant him, for a moment, what cannot enter the imagination of any sensible man, that the British government, whose wisdom and noble spirit is averse to every unjust and dishonourable proceeding, should propose to the Prince Regent of Portugal to sell it the Azores, and that having taken offence at the just indignation and refusal of that sovereign, it would then make itself master of those islands by force of arms, that it might comply with the plan of so wise and generous a

counsellor. Yet does this captain of dragoons think that the Portuguese (for their inhabitants are Portuguese, notwithstanding the slur he throws on their character and their origin) would quietly receive a foreign yoke, which was offered to them, however it might be disguised and adorned? Shall we suppose that Captain T. A. is so little acquainted with the history of Portugal, and indeed with history in general, as not to have foreseen what would be the result of an undertaking of the kind? Does he not know what the Portuguese have done, and are even now doing, for their independence? Does he not know, that, being satisfied with their characteristic loyalty, they do not think themselves free but when they are subject to a prince of their own blood? Is he ignorant of what has been the end of all the conquests which have been perfidiously wrested from them? Is he ignorant of what happened to the Dutch, when they attempted to make themselves masters of the Brazils? The British government knows better than its new counsellor the folly of such an enterprise; and it knows what necessity there is to check the pride of some individuals, who have lost some of the brilliant fruits of British valour and heroism. It seems, by the wise measures which it has adopted, as if it would be continually on its guard against that frenzy of ambition with which the avarice and the bad intentions of some individuals would inspire it, while

they degrade their countrymen only that they may exalt the enemy. It is to be lamented, and we shall never cease to repeat it, that the beneficial consequences of the liberty of the press have a terrible counterpart in the mischiefs which result from its abuse. Despotism, or that love of command to which man is naturally inclined, when it borders on liberty, is the worst scourge of the earth. It is under its cloak that it strikes its undefended victims with impunity. This is the principle on which Captain T. A. availing himself of the liberty of that press, attacks nations who have not the same arms; and by trampling on the whole social compact, the bonds of amity, and the decorum which allied governments owe to each other, vilifies the Portuguese people, and ridicules their sovereign. It is disagreeable for us to own, and even much more to acknowledge publicly, that this is not the first insult which, thanks to the liberty of the press, we Portuguese have received from some of the individuals belonging to a nation in other respects friendly and generous. When a Leckie, a Bell, and other writers of that sort, published, that is, when, at the commencement of the revolution of the Peninsula, it became a matter of speculation in this country to see what part it would take in that contest, the English press also began to scatter its abuse on the national character of the Portuguese, representing them as the most abject of all nations, and so much so, that

little

little or no dependence could be placed on their cooperation in the great cause in which the Peninsula and Britain herself were engaged. The eloquence of prose, and the energy of poetry, were employed to load them with infamy. They shall never forget the petulant line of an English poet, which is as far from being true as he was from being just in writing it:—

"The Lusian slave, the lowest of the low."

We are not, however, surprised that the gallant exploits in Portuguese history, which are unrivalled in the annals of the world, should have been either forgotten or unknown to some of those literati and modern statesmen. But what increases our astonishment, or rather drives us to madness, is the impudence with which Captain T. A. with those present actions before him which still characterize the never-extinguished valour of the Portuguese, should dare to say, that the sons of Portugal, by inhabiting a sickly climate, and being degenerate, can neither have courage or spirit. May we be gifted with the patience of Job! Degenerate on the banks of the Tagus—degenerate in the Islands—in the Brazils—and degenerate in London, where shall we escape from the insults which the malignity of individuals throws at us through the vehicle of the press? It is not long ago, when some of the English papers, on the occasion of some

horrid murders which had been committed in this metropolis, discovered that Portuguese only could be capable of such crimes; and thus they spread the report, in as much as it had not been proved that the murderers were Englishmen.* We do not mention that melancholy circumstance from a desire to recriminate on the English nation, yet we are really sorry at the injustice of some individuals, who, without informing themselves of the matter, and without any provocation, injure us so unmercifully; and we would advise this Captain T. A. that it is the characteristic of human nature to forget kindnesses more easily than injuries. But with all this, we forgive him the reproaches he heaps on us, and even more than he has said of us, since we are sufficiently generous to forgive offences, let them be ever so great. But we could wish him to tell us how it will be in our power to silence the Spaniards, who, on reading such publications, deride our condescension, or rather determination

* The Investigator alludes to some atrocious murders in Ratcliff Highway, in the beginning of 1812. Suspicions fell upon some Portuguese sailors, a circumstance which the newspapers soon spread about with a great deal of illiberality. The probable murderer was one Williams, who, however, precluded all elucidation of that horrid business by destroying himself in Clerkenwell prison. No discovery, therefore, has yet been made, and probably never will.—*Translator.*

determination to receive whatever is English, and use that as an argument to confirm themselves in the system they have adopted of declining all British assistance ?

It is a very painful and melancholy truth, but which we are under the necessity of telling to that captain of dragoons, that his example in defaming, so unjustly, a friendly nation, might be attended with consequences very little to the advantages of the very cause of that liberty of which he pretends to be an advocate. Half a dozen English officers, of his stamp and sentiments would be enough to subvert the intimacy and harmony subsisting between the two friendly and allied nations, whose feelings are so perfectly agreed to defend the same good cause !

Di talem avertite *pestem !*

It is not to excite disquiet in the minds of the Portuguese against their benefactors, nor to diminish the courage of those of our countrymen who are now defending that glorious cause, that we make them acquainted with that odious work, but that they may know that the English government and nation are very nobly-minded, and much superior to their enemies, whom they know how to conquer, when they have arms in their hands, and how to despise, when, by dint of spreading calumny and defamation, they

seek to deprive them of their reputation. If the author of this libel had had the interests of his country in view, he would not have proposed a measure which is diametrically opposite to them, and which has no other tendency than that of serving the common enemy by the unfortunate influence of his own malignity. It is remarkable that the French press, subject as it is to the control of the scourge of all nations, and who has made his own nation an instrument of general hostility, has not even yet produced any paper so much to the disparagement of the Portuguese.

Tantæne animis cœlestibus iræ ?

The captain of dragoons, T. A. as if not satisfied with the abusive language he uses towards us on his introducing the history of the Western Islands, proceeds to deny us the honour of their discovery, and attributes it to one Vander Berg *, a Fleming, who got there in a voyage to Lisbon, having been driven by stress of weather; and afterwards, on his arrival in the Tagus, boasted

* This is most probably an idle story; but it is candid to own that it is not one of Captain T. A.'s fabrication. It is to be found in a very common book, Guthrie's Geographical Grammar, almost word for word; and as I do not think that the captain has yet injured his eyes by any intense study, I would almost lay a wager that it was from there that he has copied his blunder.—*See Guthrie, African Islands, Azores.—Translator.*

ed of his discovery. The Portuguese, therefore, availing themselves of that information, went and established themselves there. This is an idle story, and which deserves not the slightest attention. The author, however, does not deny a spirit of enterprise to the Portuguese; but that he may support his odious assertions concerning their natural feebleness and pusillanimity, (what a contradiction!) he says that the progress which the Azores have made in agriculture and civilization have been owing to the brave and haughty Spaniards, while they were under their domination. Thus the Portuguese who settled in the Islands and in the New World, without bloodshed, without the hostilities attendant on usurpation, and without the fury of conquerors, but by subduing difficulties which appeared insuperable, and taming the forests and elements, were, according to the author, incapable of the industry and civilization which he attributes to the conquerors of Mexico! Who else would have said such a thing? We are averse to comparisons that have no analogy; but if hitherto the observation of Juvenal has not proved unfounded,

Nemo repente fuit turpissimus;

or, as a French poet has finely imitated it,

Le crime a ses dégrés ainsi que la vertu;

how can the author, without incurring the blame of inconsistency, admit at the same time an enterprising and an inactive spirit together, and make of a people notoriously vicious a virtuous people? Can he so suddenly change human nature? If the Portuguese had been so degenerate as he pretends, and if their ancient valour had been totally extinguished, how could it have now reappeared in the field of honour, with as much, or even more distinction, than at any former period? A man must be out of his senses to talk such nonsense. Will the captain of dragoons, T. A. be one more of those wretched maniacs who seek for celebrity, even if it were to cost them as much as it did to the ancient incendiary of the temple of Diana at Ephesus? Or does he entertain the hope, in his own revolutionary dreams, of even being one day Duke of the Western Islands? If that is his mania, he had then better enlist more openly under the banners of Napoleon, and repair to the Peninsula, where, after he had tried how the Portuguese can use their arms, he might be qualified to be sent, if not to the Western Islands, at least to the Isle of Lizards, where he might employ himself in writing plans how to catch weasels, and by that means increase the income of the family of the newts, whose propagation it is his wish so much to encourage.

If instead, therefore, of remaining to be enervated

vated in the midst of an indolent and voluptuous people, like that of the Western Islands, the author, as we have said, had found the means of joining his companions in arms on the Tagus, and after having followed the glorious career of the immortal hero, the illustrious conqueror at Ciudad Rodrigo, Badajos, and Salamanca, if he had wished to write what he had seen the Portuguese perform, he would not now publish the delirious fancies of a heated imagination, but exploits which have been authentically sealed by the hand of the most heroic gallantry.

It is however but fair to acknowledge, before we take our leave of the author, that although he has accumulated so many insults and absurdities in the political and principal part of his work, he has nevertheless displayed some talent in several of his descriptive passages.

A LETTER*

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PORTUGUESE INVESTIGATOR IN ENGLAND.

Ponta Delgada, Island of St. Michael's, April 2d, 1813.

SIRS,

THERE is a *History of the Western Islands* advertised in the Brazilian Courier for last February, page 157, by a captain of light dragoons, T. A. who gallops over his book with a great deal of levity, and says things which are highly disagreeable to the inhabitants of those Islands. I have not yet the *History,* and I speak only about the passages from it which have been extracted by the Brazilian Courier. If, perhaps, it should be known who is the author, and the inhabitants should address him, they might think it worth their while to ask him with what arguments he can support the assertion in his fifteenth page, "That the Azorians, at length impatient of tyranny, are only

* The original is in the twenty-third number of the Portuguese Investigator in England, from page 377 to page 380.

only awaiting for a signal to throw off the yoke." The inhabitants of these Islands cannot help thanking the author for his extraordinary philanthropy, and for the good offices which he is going to do them at the court of the Brazils; since, of his own accord, having undertaken to promote their happiness, he has begun *to protect them;* he has begun by publishing to the world, and therefore to their Sovereign likewise, that they are ripe for a revolution, as soon as the slightest opportunity offers. This is surely a very flattering circumstance for them, and will be so too for their Prince! But the author says besides, " Situated, however, as their Sovereign at present is, it would not be generous to countenance any step manifesting a tendency to insurrection or force." It is not, indeed, yet known what that step is, *which might manifest a tendency to insurrection or force,* especially as he had before said, that the people of the Azores only waited for a favourable moment to break off their connection with the mother country. But the author certainly means to say, that if the Prince Regent of Portugal was not engaged in a war with France, one ought to take steps having a tendency to increase the insurrection which is now dormant in the people of the Azores. It depends, therefore, on the situation and circumstances in which the Prince Regent of Portugal shall find himself, whether it shall be lawful or unlawful

unlawful to take steps tending to encourage the insurrection of his subjects. Hence, according to that reasoning, if the Prince Regent had remained quiet in Portugal, it would be an act of the highest generosity on the part of the English cabinet to promote the rebellion of the subjects of its most intimate ally, who has made for it the greatest sacrifices—sacrifices, however, which the British nation has very generously repaid. This author, who has insulted the just and humane character of his government by means of the above expressions, seems to have undertaken the charge of being a continuator of those incendiary pamphlets, which, during the melancholy period of the French Revolution, were sent about throughout Europe to infect the minds of every people, and to inculcate the duty of disobedience to their Sovereigns, and of emancipating themselves from their authority, whenever they might have an opportunity. There is, however, an essential difference between the conduct of the French and that of the captain. The former proclaimed liberty to those nations who were their enemies, that they might scatter among them the seeds of discontent, insubordination, and disunion; but the latter proclaims those principles to that very people for whom his countrymen are now bravely shedding their blood, and for whom the heroic Wellington is now reviving in Great Britain the brilliant and

glorious

glorious days of the Duke of Marlborough! And now that the Emperor of the French has, for the support of his dynasty, become the apostle of monarchial principles, a writer, and that, too, a military writer*, raises his voice out of that nation which spurned and combated the revolutionary influence of France with so much energy, as to advise the subjects of the Prince of the Brazils to bring about a revolution, and that the Western Islands may govern themselves, like the Swiss confederation!

Would the British government be pleased that a Portuguese writer would publish writings tending to excite an insurrection in its Asiatic possessions? Would it be generous in the Prince Regent of Portugal, when Great Britain had scarcely ended her struggle with France, or even while that struggle still lasted, if he wished to protect the descendants of Tippoo? or if the Portuguese circulated incendiary writings to make the Indian Rajahs rebel against the British government,

* The author is not a military man, as we have been informed; and perhaps we shall soon know for a certainty his name and employment. We shall then have much pleasure in making him known to the public; and we doubt not that his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal, our Sovereign, when he is made acquainted what a great friend he has in the pretended Captain T. A. will reward him with his accustomed liberality, which will be even still greater on account of his being a foreigner.—*Portuguese Investigator.*

government, and after having regained their liberty, place themselves under the protection of the crown of Portugal, to which they were formerly subject?

The inhabitants of the Western Islands assure the captain of light dragoons, who has undertaken the task of writing their history, that they have been filled with the greatest abhorrence and indignation towards him, for his making them appear to the public, for the first time, in the character of revolutionists. They assure the editors of the Portuguese Investigator, that if the captain had accompanied his brave and valiant countrymen in the field of honour, to save the Peninsula at Albuera and at Salamanca, they would have been more obliged to him than they are for his having wasted his time in *protecting* them, by saying of them *what they are not.* Notwithstanding, however, what the captain has written about them, his Royal Highness knows very well that they have the same spirit and disposition that animated the Portuguese at the happy restoration of 1640; they are still the same as those which they then displayed at the restoration of these Islands; and they are still the same that animated the intrepid Vieira, one of the sons of Madeira, at the recovery of Pernambuco. In a word, they are possessed of the same spirit which lately animated their countrymen at Busaco, Fuentes De Onor, Ciudad Rodrigo,

rigo, Badajos, and Salamanca; and they deem themselves very fortunate in having to obey his Royal Highness the Prince Regent of Portugal, who is so attentive to their welfare, that at a period that Portugal suffers from the immense contributions required for the maintenance of its army, and from forced recruiting, he has not increased any of the new taxes in these Islands, nor subjected them to any recruiting.

The inhabitants of the Western Islands and of Madeira being eternally connected with their Sovereign, do not stand in need of the protection of any foreign nation; and they pray God for the continuance of the life of the Prince who thus promotes their interests, and for that of the minister, who is at this time at the head of the colonial department, and who exerts himself in discovering any means that may render their country more flourishing.

I am, Sirs,

Yours,

F. BORGES.

P. S. The editors may perhaps wish to insert this letter in their Journal, till I can get the book, to answer it more at length.

We received the above letter on the 19th of April

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Michael Ginsburg
June '77

April last, and we have deemed it to be our strict duty to give it an immediate insertion, because it is a small specimen of the indignation caused in the Azores by the infamous work of the pretended Captain T. A. which we have analyzed in this and the last number of our Journal. We expect with impatience the extensive analysis, which the deserving author of the above letter has promised, and which we shall publish as speedily as possible. We hope that all the inhabitants of those Islands, and of Madeira, will show, in a public manner, their horror of such a work, and their just indignation at a writer who has had the effrontery and the rashness to insult them, and to wish, but in vain, to render suspected the loyalty of the Portuguese. In short, we hope that the inhabitants of the Azores and of Madeira will show, that the abominable production of Captain T. A. has produced in their minds an effect diametrically opposed to that which he desired.

FINIS.

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